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Ex-Intern Said to Get Subpoena From Starr

Indignant About Leaks, President to Ask Court To Punish Prosecutors

By Brian Knowlton
International Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON — Monica Lewinsky is scheduled to appear Thursday before a federal grand jury investigating allegations that President Bill Clinton had an affair with her and then asked her to lie about it.

The former White House intern had been subpoenaed more than a week ago to testify, but with talks aimed at gaining her cooperation then under way, prosecutors had held off on scheduling her appearance. When those talks broke off last week, prosecutors set the date, sources told The Associated Press.

Ms. Lewinsky is expected to return from California, where she is visiting her father.

The legal wrangling around the case also continued Monday with the Clinton administration prepared to take a major step in its counterattack against the credibility of prosecutors.

"We've had a series of mischaracterizations, misstatements, inaccurate information," Ann Lewis, the White House communications director, said on ABC-TV. "That's exactly why David Kendall, who's the president's lawyer, is going to court today to seek a remedy."

The White House said Monday that Mr. Kendall, a private attorney for Mr. Clinton, would file a sealed motion with the federal district court here asking that the office of Kenneth Starr, the independent counsel, be found in contempt for illegally revealing secret grand jury proceedings to reporters. The motion sought criminal sanctions against the source or sources of any leaks.

On Capitol Hill, meanwhile, the office of the House speaker, Newt Gingrich, confirmed that House Republican leaders last week discussed funding to hire investigators and staff members for the Judiciary Committee if Mr. Starr provides evidence to the panel that could lead to impeachment proceedings.

Should Ms. Lewinsky testify before the grand jury Thursday, it would be the most electrifying development in what has been an explosive case. For now, however, that appears unlikely.

Ms. Lewinsky's attorneys had been negotiating with the independent counsel's office for an offer of legal immunity for her in exchange for her testimony, but the talks broke down late last

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A Surprising Legal Aide in Clinton Case

Paula Jones Suit Won't Be Parade of Women, Judge's Husband Says

By Lois Romano
Washington Post Service

LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas — Last spring, when lawyers in the Paula Jones sexual harassment suit met privately with the presiding judge, U.S. District Judge Susan Webber Wright, they were joined by a surprising observer — the judge's husband, Robert Wright, a law professor.

Some of the lawyers later told colleagues they were stunned by his presence. But many other lawyers in Little Rock, where the lawsuit against President Bill Clinton is being heard, believe Mr. Wright plays a significant role in his wife's decision-making, and he does not dispute it.

Judge Wright, 49, could be the first judge in history to try a case against a sitting president, and a two-hour conversation with her husband provided considerable insight into her thinking.

Over lunch last week, Mr. Wright said he was not speaking for his wife but made it clear that they discuss the matters before her and that he has offered her suggestions for her rulings.

He said he helped his wife with a written memorandum for a key ruling in the early stages of the Jones case — that it should not go to trial until after Mr. Clinton had left office. The Supreme Court overruled the ruling in May.

Mr. Wright described his wife as having confronted the reality of her role and its possible implications for Mr. Clinton

Alpine Skiing Snowed Out

Nagano's Quirky Weather Delays All Mountain Events

By Bob Baum
The Associated Press

HAKUBA, Japan — A month ago, the mayor of Hakuba led the people of his village and Olympic officials in a prayer ceremony asking the gods for snow. The gods have obliged, and then some.

On Sunday and Monday, huge flakes cascaded from the sky, transforming the Japanese Alps into a glorious winter landscape, but wreaking havoc on the Alpine skiing schedule.

Not a single Alpine race has been run. First, the men's downhill scheduled for Sunday was postponed. On Monday, the men's combined slalom and the women's snowboarding giant slalom were canceled and rescheduled for Tuesday, with the two runs sandwiched around the women's super-G.

The men's downhill is now scheduled for Wednesday. That pushed back the downhill portion of the men's combined to Thursday.

"It's just a crazy place where you have to deal with some pretty tough coastal weather systems," said Ed Podivinsky, a Canadian who was bronze medalist in the downhill at the 1994 Olympics.

In the quirky Japanese winter, though, all was subject to change.

At daybreak Monday, the thickly falling snow left a wet, cool glaze on the earnest faces of the

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GOLDEN SLED — George Hackl of Germany winning his third Olympic gold medal in the luge on Monday. Page 22.

3,000 U.S. Troops Slated for Kuwait But Leading Republican Calls For Other Ways to Rein In Iraq

Reuters

MUSCAT, Oman — U.S. commanders have requested up to 3,000 ground troops for deployment to Kuwait in the crisis with Iraq, officials traveling with Defense Secretary William Cohen said Monday.

The soldiers are a precaution to protect the Gulf state from any Iraqi response to the campaign of air strikes that Washington is planning, a senior military official said.

General Anthony Zinni of the Marine Corps, who commands U.S. forces in the Middle East, asked the Pentagon for the troops and the request is being processed, a Pentagon spokesman said.

In Washington, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said any attack on Iraq would be substantial — "not pinpricks."

"Unless Iraq's policies change, we will have no choice but to take strong measures," she said in a speech in Washington. "Do not doubt: We have the authority to do this, the responsibility to do this and the means and the will."

But Mrs. Albright stressed that the goal was specifically to disrupt President Saddam Hussein's plans to make biological and chemical weapons and missiles to carry them, and not, as some Americans have urged, to overthrow the Iraqi leader.

She said that "the administration does not agree with those who suggest we should deploy hundreds of thousands of American troops to engage unilaterally in a ground war in Iraq aimed at goals that could not be achieved" in the 1991 Gulf War.

The Republican majority leader in the U.S. Senate, Trent Lott, said Monday that the White House ought to explore alternatives to military action against Iraq, including efforts to turn the Iraqi public against its leaders.

While Congress still intends to pass a bipartisan resolution to demonstrate unity behind President Clinton's policies, the Mississippi senator suggested other actions could be taken that would fall between diplomatic negotiation and the use of military force.

He said he would like the United States to "find ways to limit" Mr. Saddam's "ability to spew his venom to the people and have a 'Radio Free Iraq,' for instance." Mr. Lott said the actions could include jamming of Iraqi radio broadcasts or U.S. broadcasts into Iraq to counter Mr. Saddam's message.

The Pentagon, meanwhile, said six F-117A Stealth fighters, six F-16 fighters, six B-52 heavy bombers and one B-1 bomber would start leaving by midweek to augment the force of more than 300 U.S. planes already in the Gulf region.

The ground troops, infantrymen from Fort Hood, Texas, would join about 1,500 U.S. soldiers in Kuwait for Intrinsic Action, a permanent joint exercise between U.S. and Kuwaiti forces.

An amphibious force of about 2,200 Marines, aboard four vessels led by the Guam, an amphibious assault ship, is on its way to the Gulf from the Mediterranean. But under current plans these troops would not come ashore.

Asked when all U.S. forces would be in place in the Gulf, the official said: "We're looking at a week to 10 days."

The officials were speaking aboard Mr. Cohen's plane shortly before he landed in Oman on the third leg of a Gulf tour to brief regional leaders on the plans his commanders are preparing.

The Kuwaiti and Bahraini governments are willing to let U.S. combat planes operate from their territory but,

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Demonstrators marching from Jakarta's central bank Monday to protest against high prices.

Protesters Target Ethnic Chinese

By Keith B. Richburg
Washington Post Service

JAKARTA — With rioters burning down shops in the east of the country and protesters in front of the Central Bank here defiantly shouting against high prices, President Suharto hinted at new steps on Monday to try to shore up the currency and combat the rising prices of imported goods.

In brief remarks after a meeting with Muslim clerics, Mr. Suharto said, "We will decide a certain rate to allow companies to make correct calculations" for exports.

He gave no details, but suggested that new exchange rate terms could soon be set that would target raw materials needed to restart the stalled export manufacturing sector, as well as imported goods like medicines that have become prohibitively expensive for many here since the currency collapsed last year.

Spreading unrest in the provinces and mounting discontent in the capital pose the gravest challenge yet to the Mr. Suharto, 76, the world's longest-serving leader after Fidel Castro.

In exactly a month, Mr. Suharto is expected to be unanimously appointed to another five-year term by an assembly whose members he himself largely appointed. But the plunge of the currency has sent prices soaring and stalled much of the country's productive business activity, and has left the gov-

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Suharto Talks Up Economy as Unrest Spreads

AGENDA

Shevardnadze Survives Attack

TBILISI, Georgia (AP) — President Eduard Shevardnadze survived an assassination attempt Monday in the Georgian capital, the Iprinda news agency reported.

Reports indicate that Mr. Clinton's

advances toward Ms. Lewinsky "were not unwelcome — that they were con-

cessional, that is not what Paula Jones is

alleging," said Mr. Wright, 66, the

Donaghey distinguished professor of law

at the University of Arkansas law school at Little Rock.

Mr. Wright said he believed his wife

would limit evidence on Mr. Clinton's

personal life "to women who worked

for the state or federal government"

who may have been the subject of un-

wanted advances from Mr. Clinton.

"From what I've heard, a lot of Bill

Clinton's women have been satisfied

customers," he added.

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Big Bird, Meet Da Niao / U.S. Children's Show Charms China

Can You Tell Me How to Get to 'Zhima Jie'?

By Steven Mufson
Washington Post Service

BEIJING — Ding Xiaoyi, a Shanghai doctor who usually watches only sports and news on television, was flipping channels last week when he saw a fluffy, tall yellow bird talking to some children in a street scene. He called his 3-year-old daughter, Shuhui.

"She watched without blinking," Mr. Ding said. "She loved it. At the end she asked, 'Is there any more?'"

With last week's debut of a Chinese version of "Sesame Street" and Big Bird's virtually identical cousin, Da Niao, the Children's Television Workshop, which originated the hugely popular educational program "Sesame Street" in the United States, broke into its 17th international market and immediately won new fans among Chinese children and parents.

"The show is different from Chinese programs for children," Mr. Ding said. "It was lively, light-hearted and entertaining, yet educational. Normally, educational programs in China are very serious."

The program is unusual in a country where the media in general and television in particular are closely controlled by the Communist Party. Education is a particularly sensitive topic, and the government has been advocating a higher level of "spiritual civilization" and Chinese values among young people. Indeed, many of working with an American television group, Chinese Central Television and Beijing Television both rejected proposals to co-produce a Chinese version of "Sesame Street" before Shanghai Television seized the opportunity.

"It's been four years since we began," said Ye Chao, the co-producer of the show and head of Shanghai Television's children's programming. "Throughout the time, there is always somebody asking me whether the show is too Americanized. I don't think so at all. Television as a medium transcends the boundaries of countries."

Besides, Mr. Ye added, the program produced here is "very Chinese." About three-quarters of the program originates in Shanghai and the rest is selected from the "Sesame Street" archives by Shanghai Television and translated into Chinese.

Teachers and psychologists met for three days before production began to hammer out a "curriculum" for the program, including special emphasis on aesthetics and such themes as cooperation — especially important for children raised in the era of China's one-child policy.

But to keep its content faithful to the "Sesame



The Chinese equivalent of Big Bird, Da Niao, with his friends Hu Hu Zhu, left, and Xiao Meizi, and holding the characters for the numbers 1, 2 and 3.

Street" formula, the scripts were reviewed and often revised in New York.

"Writing for 'Sesame Street' is a special style," said Cooper Wright, a producer at Children's Television Workshop.

The Shanghai writers were used to longer, more serious scripts. "It was difficult for them to write something that was three minutes or less, was funny and had a punch line," Mr. Wright said.

In its Chinese incarnation, "Sesame Street" — translated literally into Chinese as "Zhima Jie" — stars Da Niao (literally "big bird"), who loves to eat bird-seed cookies, lives in a nest in a park, and is friendly and cheerful.

"We thought a long time about which main character to choose," said Mr. Ye of Shanghai Television. "We hesitated about Da Niao. We thought about a monkey or a panda — all of

these traditional things. But we eventually decided to choose Big Bird because he is a very beautiful and attractive character."

Da Niao's friends, Muppets with Chinese characteristics, include Hu Hu Zhu ("puffing pig") and Xiao Meizi ("little plum"), both created in cooperation with Jim Henson Productions.

The messages of the show aren't controversial, but the program has some unusual aspects. In many Chinese television programs, minorities in this overwhelmingly Han Chinese nation are often portrayed in a condescending or pejorative fashion.

By contrast, "Zhima Jie" last week included an installment on a Mongolian boy learning to play a traditional string instrument from his horse-herder father. The scene seemed natural and not stereotyped. Another segment portrayed a blind boy who outwits the other characters who try to identify various fruits while blindfolded.

In addition, the program flies in the face of Chinese and, in general, Asian pressure on young students to succeed at all costs. "Zhima Jie" included a segment about cartoon characters pushing a rock up a hill and failing, although they tried their best. Da Niao, the Big Bird character, also tries valiantly, though unsuccessfully, to perform some tasks, such as playing soccer goalie against one of the program's children.

General Electric chipped in about \$3 million to be listed as the show's sponsor, which will probably turn out to be cheap advertising.

Shanghai Television invested \$1.2 million in "Zhima Jie" and devoted its biggest studio to producing it. The station, which reaches tens of millions of viewers and hopes to syndicate the show to other cities later this year, stands to make millions of dollars on "Zhima Jie."

When syndication rights are offered this time, Beijing television will probably be interested.

Jewish Group Returns to Germany

Reuters

BERLIN — A prominent American Jewish official said Monday that the thousands of Jews arriving in Germany from Eastern Europe would help guard against far-right extremism.

The official, David Harris, executive director of the American Jewish Committee, said at a ceremony to open the council's first office in Germany since the Nazi era that Germany had the world's fastest growing Jewish community.

Jewish life is again making its presence felt in Germany, the country's president, Roman Herzog, was to say at the ceremony.

"There is a chance that this Jewish life can once again become an integral part of German culture and society," Mr. Herzog said, according to a copy of his speech released in advance. "It would have been audacious just a few years ago to even hope that would happen."

Germany agreed in 1990 to allow an unlimited number of Jews from the former Soviet bloc to immigrate. In the last eight years, the Jewish community in Germany has more than doubled, to 100,000, Mr. Harris said.

"The challenge to Jews in the coming years

will be to sustain and develop community life," he said. "The challenge for Germany will be to come to terms with a living and growing Jewish organism in its midst."

Mr. Harris said the opening of the council office in Berlin's Potsdamer Platz was a step toward improving the relationship between Jews and Germans.

Mr. Harris said the council would seek to bear witness to the past as the last generation of Holocaust survivors grows older.

"We want to help ensure the growing Jewish community," Mr. Harris said. "We note extreme right-wing violence and the rise of a new right that seeks to create a new interpretation of history. Obviously, we reject this."

"Without eyewitnesses, without survivors, there is danger of forgetting," he added. "We believe the AJC has a role to play in the civil society of Germany."

Before the Nazis tried to exterminate the Jewish population in Europe, about 365,000 Jews lived in Germany.

When Germany united in 1990, there were officially about 27,000 Jews living in West Germany and only around 400 in East Germany.

"The challenge to Jews in the coming years

TRAVEL UPDATE

Helsinki Transport Strike Ends

HELSINKI (Reuters) — Public transport drivers in Helsinki returned to work Monday after a weeklong strike over what they saw as threats to job security.

The Finnish news agency STT said a mediator's proposal had been accepted late Sunday, heading off a threat of sympathy strikes by airport workers and commuter train engineers.

New Attack on Bangkok Visitor

BANGKOK (AFP) — The image Thailand has sought to project, of a friendly "Land of Smiles," is at risk after the third attack on a woman tourist in two weeks.

One tourist has been murdered and two others injured. The police have vowed to crack down, starting with a request for all Bangkok hotels to supply information on their employees.

Olympic Airways canceled 10 flights Monday and rerouted others amid a work-to-rule action by cabin crews.

Parts of the Nazca Lines in southern Peru, the mysterious symbols and animal figures that Indians etched into the ground from 600 to 300 B.C., have been damaged by mud slides, a historian, Jose Lancho, said.

(AP)

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y Birthday

For Betty Currie, Being President's Secretary Carries a Heavy Price

By Rachel L. Swarns
New York Times Service



The Associated Press
Betty Currie, an unflappable aide.

WASHINGTON — To visitors, she is the first face of the Oval Office, the gracious secretary who welcomes Nelson Mandela and hobnobs with wealthy fund-raisers, the smooth, cool voice on the president's telephone line.

But for five years now, Betty Currie has also been Bill Clinton's office mother, the woman who cuddles Socks the cat and sweetens the White House with her infectious laugh and her bottomless dish of butterscotch.

And while Mrs. Currie clearly relishes her access to a glittering political world, friends say she took the job primarily out of loyalty to the president, who shares her Democratic ideals and stood by her side last year as she wept over the coffins of her sister and brother, who died within six months of each other.

"She believes in him," said Judy Green, a vice president at the People for the American Way Foundation and a friend of Mrs. Currie's for 20 years. "She has tremendous admiration and respect for him."

But last week, as Mrs. Currie stepped out on her front porch to face flashing cameras and shouting reporters, she found herself at the center of the gravest scandal of Mr. Clinton's presidency.

The daughter of an Illinois housekeeper, who rose to become the White

House gatekeeper with a passion for public service, Mrs. Currie, 58, has reluctantly provided evidence to prosecutors investigating a possible cover-up of a suspected relationship between the president and Monica Lewinsky.

And in the process, the quiet, church-going woman, who once described Mr. Clinton as "one of the nicest, most wonderful people" she had ever worked for, has found herself caught between her devotion to the president and her obligation to cooperate with the independent counsel, Kenneth Starr.

But even while talking with prosecutors, Mrs. Currie has been a valiant defender of the president, who shares her Democratic ideals and stood by her

side last year as she wept over the coffins of her sister and brother, who died within six months of each other.

To them, Mrs. Currie is, perhaps, the most sympathetic of the many government employees drawn into the political maelstrom surrounding Mr. Starr's investigation. Unaccustomed to the spotlight, she has flourished in behind-the-scenes roles, serving as the office manager for Geraldine Ferraro's vice presidential campaign and Michael Dukakis' presidential campaign before joining Mr. Clinton's campaign staff in 1992.

Of course, as one of the president's two personal secretaries, she did sometimes mingle in glamorous circles. She played a bit role in "The War Room," a

documentary movie on the 1992 presidential campaign. And Barbra Streisand, a Clinton supporter, personally invited her to the New York premiere of her movie, "The Mirror Has Two Faces," in November 1996, a long-time friend said.

That night, Mrs. Currie accompanied Walter Kaye, the wealthy fund-raiser who referred Ms. Lewinsky to the White House, in a limousine to Ms. Streisand's party at Tavern on the Green in Manhattan.

But friends and colleagues said Mrs. Currie spends most of her time far from public scrutiny, kidding with the president in his office, offering M&Ms to children who come to hear the president's weekly radio address or relaxing at home in Arlington, Virginia, with her husband, Robert, a retired government official and amateur pilot.

An intensely private woman who was struggling to cope with the deaths of her two siblings and with the care of her sickly mother, Mrs. Currie seemed stunned as she emerged from testifying before the grand jury last week into the crush of waiting cameras. And the look in her frightened eyes that flashed across the evening news left her friends and colleagues anguished.

"I cannot tell you how much it broke my heart to see her go into that grand jury amidst that circus outside," said Lisa Caputo, the former press secretary to

Hillary Rodham Clinton. "Betty Currie is a gem," she added, "a true gem. To see this, it's just not right."

It is a sentiment that echoes through the halls of the White House, in the Community United Methodist Church in Arlington, where she prays on Sunday, and on her tree-lined street, where she has spent the past week secluded behind the shuttered, white Venetian blinds of her two-story home in Arlington.

"We love her," said Mrs. Philip Peters, a neighbor for 13 years who broke into tears when asked to describe Mrs. Currie. "Can't everyone just leave her alone?"

Born in Waukegan, Illinois, Mrs. Currie was popular and active in her local high school, participating in Spanish club, the concert choir and cheerleaders.

And when she graduated in 1957, she went to work as a typist at Great Lakes Naval Training Center, beginning a career in government that would carry her from the Post Office, to the Agency for International Development, to the Peace Corps Action/Agency, and ultimately to the White House.

She had retired and was caring for her mother when her friend, Ms. Green, asked her to come to work for the Clinton campaign. Her job: To control the frantic stream of phone calls and ap-

pointments in the frenetic "war room." And she impressed everyone with her quiet aplomb.

"You had 18 people with their desks all in one room and she still managed to control the flow in and out, very quietly, always calm, always friendly," said Rick Seidman, the former White House scheduler.

And when she was offered the post at the White House, she accepted it. "It was the opportunity of a lifetime," Ms. Green said.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin of Israel sat on the corner of her desk. Mr. Clinton shook the hands of her friends and relatives. She became a reliable barometer of the President's moods, warning some visitors that it might be better to try another time.

And she soon became friend, counselor and confessor to her colleagues, warming the room with her quiet smile, and the brown eyes that peered over her dark-rimmed glasses into the hearts of her friends.

Her friends say Mrs. Currie feels drained these days. She feels sure she will survive Mr. Starr's investigation, just as she has survived the other traumas of the past year.

"This is a strong woman and no one should think any different," said her friend, Ms. Green. "She believes in the president and she's back at work. She's going to stay."

Career Help for Friends: A Clinton Pattern?

By William C. Rempel and David Willman
Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — As investigators worked around the clock last month combing through tape-recordings of the former White House intern Monica Lewinsky, they heard plenty of salacious talk about her supposed intimacy with the president of the United States.

But what riveted career prosecutors, and prompted Kenneth Starr, the independent counsel, to seek an expansion of his jurisdiction, was hearing that Vernon Jordan Jr., a presidential friend and adviser, had arranged for Ms. Lewinsky to be offered a job.

To Mr. Starr's investigators, that echoed a pattern: More than once, from the governor's mansion to Little Rock, Arkansas, to the White House, when Bill Clinton's political life has been in jeopardy, he and his most trusted aides have been accused of offering to line up jobs and financial security for those who might hold sensitive information about him.

The intended beneficiaries have included a reputed former mistress, former bodyguards and an ex-law partner of Hillary Rodham Clinton. In nearly every instance, it appears that Mr. Clinton's allies have not shied from using government resources to help accomplish their aims.

Clinton supporters have defended the job as nothing more than reasonable help for friends in need — and not much different from the traditional patronage that has been part of American politics for more than 200 years.

As investigators looked at the pattern, however,

Was the aid designed to encourage potential witnesses to remain silent or otherwise withhold cooperation?

Such actions could amount to obstruction of justice, encouraging perjury or other serious crimes.

And if Mr. Starr should succeed in amassing persuasive evidence of such wrongdoing, the future over Mr. Clinton's personal relationship with a former intern could be transformed into a major crisis.

Among the examples of the job pattern are the following:

• Early in Mr. Clinton's first White House term, according to one of his former bodyguards, the president dangled offers of federal jobs before two Arkansas state troopers who were threatening to go public with accounts of aiding his extramarital affairs as governor.

• Gennifer Flowers, an Arkansas cabaret singer whose account of a long-running affair triggered an uproar during Mr. Clinton's first presidential campaign, said Governor Clinton landed her a state job;

this, despite the fact that on a merit test she scored ninth out of the 11 applicants.

• In the spring of 1994, top administration officials, including the White House chief of staff, used their influence and government offices to help round up hundreds of thousands of dollars in consulting deals for Webster Hubbell, a former Justice Department official, when he became a target in the original Whitewater investigation.

Administration officials declined to comment.

• But Larry Davis, who until two weeks ago was a White House special counsel, defended Mr. Clinton.

He said it was typical of the president to help friends and associates.

"This does not sound to me like a pattern of people being paid off," Mr. Davis said. "You could find numerous instances of Bill Clinton helping his friends get jobs."

A pattern of providing jobs for potentially harmful witnesses is another matter, and it is that possibility that is drawing scrutiny from a federal grand jury as it examines the Lewinsky matter for evidence of obstruction of justice. Did Ms. Lewinsky receive a job offer in tacit exchange for silence? And if so, was it a component of a calculated scheme of witness tampering?

"These are people Bill Clinton is worried about, and he's trying to keep them happy," said a former official of the Clinton White House.

Away From Politics

• Authorities in Northern California ordered 500 families from their homes around Clear Lake, north of San Francisco, which was creeping higher after major storms struck the area. At least nine deaths have been blamed on the weeklong series of storms. (AP)

• A Miami Air International airplane had just landed when one of its wheels went off the pavement and got stuck in the mud. Airport workers had to evacuate 117 passengers. (AP)

• Four of every 10 HIV-infected people surveyed at two New England hospitals had failed to tell sex partners about their condition, and nearly two-thirds did not always use a condom, researchers said. The survey subjects were mostly poor, and many used illegal drugs and lacked high school educations, but the researchers said in Archives of Internal Medicine that they believed withholding such information was widespread. (AP)

Texas-Sized Fight Over a Lawyers' Bill

Governor Seeks to Block \$2.3 Billion in Legal Fees for Tobacco Lawsuit

By Sam Howe Verhovek
New York Times Service

HOUSTON — At first blush, it sounds like a standard contingency-fee agreement — even a generous one from the client's point of view, by trial lawyers' standards.

The lawyers who took the case put up the initial costs, agreed not to take a penny if the client did not collect and asked for only 15 percent if there was a settlement.

But when the client is the state of Texas, and the state's settlement with the tobacco industry is \$13.3 billion, the result is not a cheerful payment of the lawyers' bill, which comes to \$2.3 billion (plus expenses, some lawyers argue).

Calling the proposed fees "outrageous," Governor George Bush has gone to federal court to block the payment to the roughly 150 lawyers who helped Texas in the tobacco lawsuit.

But the state's attorney general, Dan Morales, the chief architect of the settlement, arguing that Mr. Bush's move could undermine the accord, accused him of having "chosen to wrap himself in a tobacco leaf" and said the governor was pandering for campaign contributions from the tobacco industry in a future run for the White House.

The fight in Texas mirrors one in Florida, where some lawyers are trying to collect as much as 25 percent of that state's \$11.3 billion settlement with the tobacco industry for health-related dam-

age caused by smoking. That battle already has the added twist of lawyers fighting among themselves over the share of any proceeds. But, for now, a state judge has blocked some of the lawyers' attempts to collect fees by placing liens on the tobacco companies' payments to the state.

The Florida judge, Harold Cohen of Circuit Court in West Palm Beach, ruled late last year that the lawyers may well be entitled to hundreds of millions of dollars for their work. However, in a ruling that basically tore up the stipulated 25 percent, Judge Cohen wrote that the amount of fees sought, \$2.87 billion, "simply shocks the conscience of the court" and "is per se unreasonable."

The proposed fees in Texas and Florida appear to be the two largest payments to lawyers in the history of American litigation.

But, as garraman as the fight over them may seem now, it may well be dwarfed by the one that will occur if Congress approves the proposed \$368.5 billion national settlement with the tobacco industry, which in most respects would supersede the Texas and Florida agreements as well as those expected in the more than three dozen other states that have legal action pending against the tobacco companies.

Even without such a national deal in hand, several members of Congress have proposed legislation that would limit the amounts paid to the hundreds of private lawyers who helped negotiate that agreement, which was announced last

spring but has yet to be acted on. One bill proposed in the House of Representatives would set the fees to be awarded at no more than \$150 an hour plus expenses; a Senate bill would put the amount at \$250 an hour.

In Texas, the legal tussle has enough

subtext to fill an entire semester's course in the basic politics of America's second most populous state, after California.

As a group, trial lawyers here have

long been major contributors to the Democratic Party and have fought bitterly with Mr. Bush, a Republican, over legislation that would limit damage awards in civil trials and limit what Mr. Bush calls "frivolous lawsuits."

The governor is running for re-election this autumn, and he would appear to have little to lose politically by arguing to Texans that a bunch of trial lawyers do not deserve \$2.3 billion in fees.

In his filing to Judge David Folsom of Federal District Court in Texarkana, Mr. Bush said he did not want to reduce the overall size of the settlement; he simply wanted more of the money to go to health-care programs and less to lawyers.

Nonetheless, Mr. Bush's strategy is not without risk. Mr. Morales said the action threatened to undermine the settlement, which has a provision stating that it can be terminated if the courts or lawmakers change it in any "material respect." The attorney general said Mr. Bush was doing the bidding of the tobacco companies by filing the equivalent of a legal bombshell that could destroy the agreement.

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ASIA/PACIFIC

China Arrests Activists Tied To Exile Who Planned Party

Reuters

BEIJING — The police seized a prominent dissident, Wang Donghai, on Monday in a crackdown linked to the detention of a U.S.-based activist who was hoping to set up an opposition party in China, his sister and a human-rights group said.

Mr. Wang was the fourth dissident to be taken into police custody since the exiled activist Wang Bingzhang was detained Friday in central Anhui Province after entering the country under an alias, the Hong Kong-based Information Center of Human Rights and Democratic Movement in China said.

The clampdown appeared to single out activists who had contact with Wang Bingzhang, the center said.

He was seized after a nationwide manhunt, just days before the planned start-up of a group to be called the Justice Party, the center said.

Another dissident, Wang Tingjin, 43, a mathematics teacher, was detained in Anhui Province along with Wang Bingzhang. Also, a longtime dissident, Yang Qinsheng, 44, was taken from his home Monday by the police in Shanghai, family members said.

Zhang Ruijun, a dissident missing since Sunday, has also been taken into police custody, his wife quoted the police as saying.

Wang Bingzhang has been an irritant for Beijing for the last 15 years, publishing anti-Communist literature overseas that circulated underground in China. The head of the Hong Kong human-rights center, Lu Siping, said the authorities were likely to deal with him sternly as a warning to others.

Mr. Wang has been granted political asylum in the United States, giving him residency rights.

"He is in a very bad situation," Mr. Lu said in Hong Kong. "He is not an American citizen, so the American government cannot protect him."

A U.S. Embassy spokesman, William Palmer, said the embassy and the consulate general in Shanghai were "actively pursuing this issue with authorities in Beijing and Anhui Province with a view to confirming this person's status and current condition."

Ex-Khmer Rebel Won't Seek Office

The Associated Press

PHNOM PENH — Ieng Sary, the highest ranking Khmer Rouge rebel to surrender to the government, said Monday that he would not participate in the general election scheduled for July.

The former guerrilla leader made the vow during his second visit to the capital since a coup in July when Second Prime Minister Hun Sen ousted First Prime Minister Prince Norodom Ranariddh to take undisputed control. Earlier Monday, he met with Mr. Hun Sen.

Mr. Ieng Sary's falling out with the hard-core leadership of Khmer Rouge in July 1996 led to the defection of about 10,000 guerrillas, effectively marginalizing the Khmer Rouge as a military force. After his defection, Mr. Ieng Sary formed the Democratic National United Movement.



Lal Krishna Advani addressing a party rally Monday in New Delhi.

India Nationalists Pledge Not to Hinder Investors

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW DELHI — The Indian nationalists who are leading in opinion polls for the coming parliamentary elections want to limit foreign influence in the country, but the party's president reassured investors Monday that he wanted to see further reforms in the economy.

Responding to criticism that the Bharatiya Janata Party opposes foreign investors, its president, Lal Krishna Advani, said at the Foreign Correspondents Club here that the party would not hinder foreign companies if it formed a government.

"The BJP will not roll back the economic reforms instituted," he said, adding that if anything, the process would be "further speeded up."

Foreign companies seeking to make investments in India, he said, "will not be hindered, just as they will not be favored, as was often the case so far."

Mr. Advani refused to provide details about the measures his party favored, such as which state enterprises would be targeted first for privatization or how more investment would be lured.

A series of opinion polls has indicated that Mr. Advani's Hindu nationalist party will win the most parliamentary seats in the elections that will begin Monday and continue into early March, but not enough seats to govern without partners.

In its manifesto released last week, the party said the economic reforms begun in this once-socialist country by the Congress (I) Party in 1991 had "further impoverished the majority" of Indians and opened domestic industries to competition for which they were not prepared.

India needs to rely on its own capital and entrepreneurs to grow, the manifesto said, and domestic industries should have at least seven years of protection from foreign competition. But foreign investors were welcome to help India develop its infrastructure, it added.

Mr. Advani said the party would judge foreign-investment proposals on the basis of their value to the national economy but noted that it opposed foreign ownership of mass media.

Mr. Advani indicated that the basic direction of reforms would not be altered — or at least not immediately.

"A government is always a government in continuity," he said. "Even when radical changes are necessary, we would have to move cautiously."

He added, "Investments that have been made already are absolutely secure."

He said that, while there is a role for foreign capital in India, "its size and scope must not be overestimated" and that his party rejected the idea that foreign investment "is our only hope."

(AP, Reuters)

Taipei Mayor Is Waiting in the Wings

Star of the Opposition Sees a Parallel With Kim of South Korea

By Keith B. Richburg
Washington Post Service

TAIPEI — Ask Mayor Chen Shui-bian of Taipei about the opposition's chances of winning control of Taiwan's legislature this year and then seizing the presidency in 2000, and he immediately brings up the Labor Party of Britain and Kim Dae Jung of South Korea, the one-time dissident who is to assume the presidency in Seoul this month.

The Labor Party "had to wait 18 years to return to power," Mr. Chen said in the expansive reception room of Taipei City Hall. "And Kim Dae Jung in South Korea waited 40 years. So even the impossible can become possible."

As for the prospects of his Democratic Progressive Party — best known for its stance favoring Taiwan's independence from the Chinese mainland — Mr. Chen, 46, exuded casual confidence.

"I think the DPP has the same potential to become the ruling party," he said, smiling. "I have great confidence the DPP can win the presidency in the year 2000."

Many others in Taiwan are taking that prediction seriously, particularly after local elections in November in which opposition candidates routed the governing Kuomintang. And political analysts say the media-savvy, blunt-talking mayor is the Democratic Progressive Party's best hope for the presidency.

Mr. Chen's first term as mayor has gained him widespread popularity, with his high-profile campaigns against youth gangs and prostitution, his efforts to clean up the city and his success in unsnarling Taipei's notorious traffic jams.

"In Taiwan politics right now, he is probably one of the most popular politicians," said Joseph Wu, a political scientist at the National Cheng Kung University's Institute of International Relations. "Chen Shui-bian seems to be doing a lot for the city of Taipei."

Like Mr. Kim, whose name he often uses, Mr. Chen — the son of a poor plantation family who became a successful lawyer — has paid a heavy price for his opposition to the Kuomintang. During a 1985 campaign rally, a truck, widely believed to have been driven by Nationalist thugs, plowed through a crowd and ran over Mr. Chen's wife, then backed up and ran over her again. His wife, Wu Shu-chen, was paralyzed; nearly 13 years later, Mr. Chen still returns home every evening to give her a therapeutic massage. Three months after that incident, Mr. Chen himself was arrested and jailed on charges of sedition.

To many, it might seem poetic justice for Mr. Chen to emerge as the next president, ending the Nationalists' five-decade monopoly on power, which began in 1949 when Chiang Kai-shek fled here with the remnants of his defeated Nationalist army after the Communists' takeover of China. Martial law here was lifted only in 1987, as Taiwan began its "quiet revolution" to full democracy, and in 1996, Lee Teng-hui became the island's first popularly elected president.

Mr. Lee is widely expected to step down at the end of his term, in two years, and to throw his support behind Vice President Lien Chan.

But Mr. Lien's popularity dwindled after a disastrous run as prime minister in which he was blamed, among other things, for failing to stem a spiraling crime rate. He is likely to be challenged for the nomination by a popular provincial governor, James Soong, setting up a split within the Kuomintang. That, analysts say, could clear the way for Mr.

Chen to move from city hall to the Presidential Palace.

Mr. Chen is coy about his plans, saying he is concentrating on being re-elected mayor this year and deciding whether to run for his party's chairmanship this spring.

"The presidential election will take place two years from now," he said. "Taiwan is a fast-changing society. Everything will change, and nobody can predict what will happen."

"So far, what I'm concerned about is how to play my role well as mayor," added Mr. Chen, who also served in the legislature and was behind some of the wildest brawls in that raucous chamber.

"The idea of running for the presidency has never come to my mind."

His party's long-standing pro-independence stance has made it anathema to the leadership in Beijing, which has set its sights on reunifying Taiwan with the mainland following the successful return of Hong Kong to Chinese control last year. China considers Taiwan a renegade province.

But Mr. Chen lately has been at the forefront of modifying his party's pro-independence line to a more pragmatic one. While still proclaiming that Taiwan is not a part of the People's Republic of China, he also says that if his party takes power, any declaration of Taiwan's independence would come only after a nationwide referendum on the issue — and the referendum might not be held right away.

BRIEFLY

New Okinawa Mayor Defers on Heliport

TOKYO — A new Okinawan mayor or backtracked Monday on building an offshore heliport to reduce the U.S. military presence on the island, reportedly saying he would defer to the governor of Okinawa, who opposes the plan.

"At present, I am not in a position to accept the heliport construction," said Tateo Kishimoto, who was elected mayor Sunday of Nago, the northern town near the proposed heliport site, according to the Kyodo news agency. He added, "As long as Governor Ota says 'no,' I cannot accept the building of the marine base."

Mr. Kishimoto, a former deputy mayor backed by Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, won by a slim margin after stressing that building the heliport would invigorate the depressed local economy.

The election came two days after Governor Masahide Ota said that he would not support government efforts to build the floating platform off Nago. Mr. Ota noted that 54 percent of Nago voters rejected the plan in a nonbinding referendum in December. (AP)

the centenary of its federation.

The convention also left open the option of allowing Australia to become a republic in time for the opening of the Summer Olympics in Sydney in late September 2000 and voted that the head of state in a republic would be called president rather than governor-general.

The resolution on the timing of the republic calls for a referendum next year. The constitutional convention is discussing the issue of Australia as a republic. Half of the 152 delegates were elected by Australians in a voluntary mail ballot and the other half were appointed by Prime Minister John Howard's government. (AP)

4 North Koreans Defect to Seoul

SEOUL — Four North Koreans working in a former Soviet republic defected to South Korea and arrived in Seoul Monday, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said.

The ministry declined to identify the four men or name the country from which they defected. The state-run Yonhap news agency reported they had been working in construction and logging in the Commonwealth of Independent States, the grouping of former Soviet republics.

About 200 North Koreans have fled to the South in the last two years, complaining of severe food shortages and other hardships in the reclusive North. (AP)

Twins, 14, Arrested In Japan Stabbing

TOKYO — Fourteen-year-old twin brothers were arrested Monday, the police said, in the broad-daylight stabbing of a woman, the latest in a string of attacks by Japanese schoolboys fascinated with knives.

The youths stabbed the 58-year-old housewife in the hip with a knife Monday in Sakaimachi City, 660 kilometers (410 miles) west of Tokyo, said a police official in Tottori Prefecture, speaking on condition he not be identified. The woman survived the attack, he added.

The attacks are part of a troubling surge in juvenile crime in Japan. A 13-year-old boy stabbed a teacher to death last month. (AP)

Thai Farmers March For Additional Aid

BANGKOK — About 5,000 farmers began marching Monday from impoverished northeastern provinces toward Bangkok to demand more government aid, police officials said.

The farmers, led by the Assembly of Small-Scale Northeastern Farmers, were moving from the Si Km district of Nakorn Ratchasima Province, 180 kilometers (110 miles) from Bangkok.

The farmers were unhappy that Prime Minister Chuan Leekpai did not meet with them during a weekend visit to the northeast. (Reuters)

Australia Body Sets Republic Deadline

CANBERRA — A constitutional convention voted Monday to ensure that any change to make Australia a republic takes place by Jan. 1, 2001.

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the Wing

of South Korea

The party's long-standing pro-independence stance has made it difficult for the leadership in Beijing, which wants rights on reunifying Taiwan and mainland following the success of Hong Kong to Chinese control next year. China considers Taiwan a separate province.

Mr. Chen lately has been a proponent of modifying his party's independence line to a more pragmatic one. While still proclaiming Taiwan is not a part of the People's Republic of China, he also says that whenever independence would come after a nationwide referendum — and the referendum may not be held right away.

FLY

The centenary of its federation. The convention also left open the option of allowing Australia to become a republic in time for the opening of the Summer Olympics in Sydney in late September 2000.

It was decided that the head of state in a republic would be called president.

The resolution on the timing of the referendum was agreed to a referendum on the constitutional convention, discussing the issue of Australian republicanism. Half of the 152 delegates were elected by Australians in a postal ballot and the other half were appointed by Prime Minister John Howard's government.

4 North Koreans Defect to Seoul

SEOUL — Four North Koreans working in a former Soviet republic defected to South Korea and arrived Saturday morning at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The defectors, identified to the foreign ministry as members of the Communist Party who had defected. The man, 30, and three women, ages 20 to 25, had been working in the Commonwealth of Independent States, a grouping of former Soviet republics.

About 30 North Koreans have defected to the South since the beginning of 1997, mostly through the defection of their spouses or children.

11 Arrested in Japan Stabbing

TOKYO — Eleventh-hour negotiations between police and the arrested Monday in Tokyo of 11 people accused of stabbing 13 others in a subway station here have ended.

The youths, aged 15 to 24, were arrested Monday in Sapporo, northern Japan, and a police spokesman said they had been taken to a prison in Tokyo.

The attack, which occurred Jan. 4, injured 40 people, most of whom were students. (AP)

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Arab League Calls for Compromise on UN-Iraq Standoff

By Douglas Jehl
New York Times Service

CAIRO — The head of the Arab League called for compromise from all sides Monday on a plan that would seek to resolve the standoff between Iraq and the United Nations without resort to force.

The appeal by Esma Abdel Meguid, secretary-general of the 21-member organization, marked a new diplomatic challenge to American and British insistence that Iraq alone make the concessions necessary to put an end to a dispute over access by UN inspectors to all of Iraq's suspected weapons sites.

The United States and Britain have insisted that such access be granted to inspectors from the UN special commission that Iraq has accused of being unjust. But Mr. Abdel Meguid, who met with President Saddam Hussein of Iraq in Baghdad last week, said the league was working with France and Russia to find an alternative plan to reach the same end by different means.

"We are determined to find a peaceful

solution," Mr. Abdel Meguid said at a news conference at the Arab League headquarters here Monday. "I know that it is difficult, but it is not impossible."

Under the alternative sketched out of Mr. Abdel Meguid on Monday, the inspectors from the UN special commission would be allowed full access to 60 of 68 Iraqi sites that lie at the heart of the current dispute. But for the eight presidential sites that Iraq has been most emphatic in declaring off limits, searches would be carried out by a new team of inspectors whose chairman would be appointed by the UN secretary-general.

Such a compromise is not likely to be embraced by either the United States or Britain, which have insisted that Iraq be the one to step back from what they have said could be the brink of a sustained military campaign. But it may well be seen as credible by Arab and other countries around the world who are warning Washington and London against moving too quickly to punish Iraqi insensitivity.

To preempt charges that the Arab

League plan beat too far to address Iraqi complaints, Mr. Abdel Meguid took pains to emphasize that Richard Butler, the Australian who heads the UN special commission, would serve as vice-chairman of the proposed new inspection team.

A day after Saudi Arabia effectively denied the United States the use of American warplanes based in the kingdom in any military strike, the discussion of the Arab League plan came amid new expressions of Arab caution.

In London, King Hussein of Jordan said after a meeting with Prime Minister Tony Blair: "I don't think I would support action that would affect the people of Iraq. The people have suffered enough."

President Zine Abidine ben Ali of Tunisia warned against a situation in which "the logic of war gets the upper hand on the logic of peace." And in Cairo, Mr. Abdel Meguid declared: "The use of force will never, never, I repeat, never solve the problem."

He added: "If the United States neglects this proposal, it is their responsibility."

Also on Monday, Iraq dispatched Foreign Minister Mohammed Said Sahafa to rally Arab leaders against possible American military action. He was scheduled to arrive in Damascus on Monday night and to travel on later in the week to Cairo and perhaps to Beirut.

Among the Gulf War allies who fought to drive Iraqi troops out of Kuwait in 1991, only Syria among Arab nations has flatly declared that a new attack on Iraq now would be unwarranted.

But with the exception of Kuwait, no Arab nation has endorsed the American threats of military action, despite the assurances that Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said she had received on her recent visit to the Middle East.

And while Mrs. Albright portrayed her trip as a success, the messages from top Arab officials have remained highly cautionary, heavy with suggestions that the renewed use of force against Iraq could set off more turmoil in a volatile region.

After meeting Sunday with King Hassan of Morocco, Foreign Minister Amr Moussa of Egypt said, "As part of the ongoing consultations between Arab countries, Egypt and Morocco are against military strikes on Iraq."

The resistance to the U.S. strategy reflects the sentiments being voiced

among many ordinary Arabs, and it could still complicate American decision-making on the threatened strikes.

The message was expressed in less diplomatic language last week by the state-owned Egyptian newspaper Al Ahram.

"The American position toward Iraq cannot be described as anything but coercive, aggressive, unwise and uncaring about the lives of Iraqis, who are unnecessarily subjected to sanctions and humiliation," the newspaper said in an editorial.

Throughout the region, diplomats and other analysts say a new round of air strikes against Iraq could have a broadly negative political impact by reinforcing a view that the United States has little regard for Arab lives.

Which Course on Iraq?

While Clinton Hones a Limited Agenda, Republicans Clamor for Saddam's Fall

By R.W. Apple Jr.
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — History is peering over President Bill Clinton's shoulder as he ponders what to do about President Saddam Hussein and Iraq.

The experiences of the United States in the last half-century — in Vietnam, the Gulf War and the limited strikes against Baghdad since, and in diplomatic activities and clandestine operations, too — have left a cautionary residue: Power, even commanding power, does not always guarantee success.

That lesson, in turn, has made not only the American public but also the generals in the Pentagon reluctant to support

NEWS ANALYSIS

all-out military efforts. So despite repeated comments about excluding no option, Mr. Clinton — if his aides are to be believed — has never contemplated ordering a ground assault to try to rid Iraq of weapons of mass destruction or to try to drive Mr. Saddam from power.

Support would almost certainly erode, not increase, once American casualties began mounting.

In strictly military terms, that leaves air power — which is what the administration apparently intends to use, with bombers operating from aircraft carriers and airfields in and near the region, and perhaps cruise missiles launched from warships.

Two American carriers and one from Britain are in the Gulf.

Kuwait and Bahrain (but not hyper-sensitive Saudi Arabia) have agreed to allow offensive activities from bases on their territory. Without Saudi Arabia, it would be harder to mount the kind of vast campaign that Defense Secretary William Cohen has pledged if diplomatic initiatives bear no fruit.

Mr. Cohen insisted Sunday that plenty of air power could be brought to bear without Saudi Arabia's help, and he said he did not plan to seek it.

But air power alone, even without any problems of basing, stands very little chance of eliminating the arsenal of

chemical and biological weapons that Mr. Saddam has built up, let alone getting rid of him. The location of all the weapons is not known, and making new ones would not be that difficult, given the survival of the scientists involved and of supplies from abroad. The Iraqis have proved ingenious at sneaking war material through the embargo.

Nor could a bombing campaign be mounted without substantial political costs, the view of the man who ran the air operations in the Gulf War, General Charles Horner, retired. An all-out air attack, he said last week, could well "turn our friends, especially in the Arab world, against us."

Mr. Clinton, Mr. Cohen and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright are well aware of the problems. That is one reason that they have set the rhetorical bar so low in recent statements, suggesting that the United States seeks only to "contain" Mr. Saddam, not drive him from power, and to force him to comply with UN resolutions by allowing full weapons inspections. But is even that limited goal attainable?

In World War II, elaborate claims were made for strategic bombing and later called into question. In Vietnam, the United States claimed to have destroyed the Paul Doumer bridge in North Vietnam more than a dozen times, but it survived.

In the Gulf War, "smart" bombs and cruise missiles did better in hitting designated targets, but postwar analysis showed that they did not score the miraculous successes first claimed.

"In reality," a senior State Department official said, "I think the best we can do is reduce his stock of weapons, at least for a while, and give him some second thoughts about using them again, if any of his neighbors."

Faced with so many limitations, some Republicans, including such important figures as Senator John McCain of Arizona, have begun to demand that the administration set a more ambitious agenda for dealing with Mr. Saddam, including some plan for an "endgame."

— meaning some plan to ensure either that Mr. Saddam is killed or banished from Iraq or that he is permanently

denied the ability to replenish his stocks of murderous chemical and biological weapons.

Since few believe that even a combination of bombing, subsequent inspections and international vigilance can keep Mr. Saddam from making weapons whose ingredients and manufacturing "plants" can be fitted easily into an average-sized room, the clamor for killing or organizing the overthrow of the Iraqi leader is growing ever stronger.

The Senate majority leader, Trent Lott, Republican of Mississippi, derided what he depicted as Mr. Clinton's plan not to oust Mr. Saddam in some manner but simply to "smile him a little." Air attacks would make it harder than ever to send in weapons inspectors. Mr. Lott said, "so what have you achieved?"

As long as Mr. Saddam "remains in power," Richard Perle, a former as-

sistant secretary of state, wrote in Sunday's *Washington Post*, "it is idle to believe that this threat can be contained." He added: "The United States — alone if necessary, with our friends if possible — should encourage, recognize, help finance, arm and protect with air power a new provisional government broadly representative of all the people of Iraq."

That might have been easier, of course, had events taken a different course at the end of the Gulf War in 1991. At that time, General H. Norman Schwarzkopf agreed to permit flights by Iraqi helicopters, which Mr. Saddam then used to put down nascent rebellions in the northern and southern regions of his country.

But as it is, only a sliver of territory in the north harbors significant organized opposition to the government. Elsewhere, the Iraqi National Congress, an

opposition umbrella group, is small and weak, which leads Mr. Perle and others to suggest that the United States should supply it with direct military aid, including comprehensive air cover.

Mr. Clinton must consider first whether such a program has any reasonable prospect of success, which many intelligence analysts doubt. Then he must consider whether the risk is worth the uproar that would certainly follow from many American allies, especially in the Arab world, and perhaps at home.

Surely, it would have less support than the idea of a straightforward bombing campaign, and that lacks backing not only among Republicans in Congress but also abroad. In Europe, only the British have provided military forces to the effort to force Mr. Saddam to back down. In the Arab world, where the Gulf War was widely supported, public backing for the United States is now sparse.

BRIEFLY

Economic Accord For Ivory Coast

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast — Ivory Coast signed a deal with the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank on Monday, committing itself to three more years of far-reaching economic reforms and opening the way for a once-and-for-all solution to its external debt crisis.

The agreement, which will be referred to the executive boards of the IMF and the World Bank for final approval in the next few weeks, was signed at a ceremony here by Prime Minister Daniel Kablan Duncan and the IMF chief negotiator, Amor Taiani.

Once approved, the agreement on a new package of economic reforms will lead to the release of a new IMF loan said to be worth \$35 million over the next three years.

It will also pave the way for Ivory Coast to benefit from new credits from the World Bank and substantial relief on its \$17 billion external debt.

(AP)

Jackson Urging Leadership' on Moi

NAIROBI — The Reverend Jesse Jackson, the U.S. envoy for democracy in Africa, urged President Daniel arap Moi of Kenya on Monday to show greater "leadership" in dealing with ethnic clashes that have killed more than 100 people.

Mr. Jackson told a news conference that he had appealed to Mr. Moi to visit the Rift Valley, adding that a joint visit with the opposition leader Mwai Kibaki would provide a useful symbol of ethnic and political unity.

More than 100 people have been killed since Jan. 11 in raids and revenge attacks between ethnic Kalenjins and Kikuyus in Nakuru and Laikipia districts of the Rift Valley.

"The president's presence, personal presence and touch will show a humane expression of care," Mr. Jackson said. (Reuters)

Rebels Blow Up Colombia Pipeline

BOGOTA — Leftist rebels dynamited the Cano Limon pipeline in Colombia for the seventh time this year, paralyzing all oil pumping operations and spilling at least 15,000 barrels of crude, the state oil company Ecopetrol said Monday.

The attack took place near the town of Villanueva in Norte de Santander Province, west of the Cano Limon field operated by the American multinational Occidental Petroleum Corp.

"The pipeline was blown up Sunday morning but because of the bad weather engineers cannot get in to begin repairs," an Ecopetrol spokesman said, adding that the spill had caused an ecological disaster.

The blast was linked to the National Liberation Army, a Cuban-inspired force set up in the mid-1960s that focuses on Colombia's oil infrastructure. (Reuters)

Yeltsin, in Rome, Slips Up In Remarks About Iraq

ROME — Boris Yeltsin, looking lively during his first foreign trip this year, caused confusion by prematurely announcing progress in talks with Iraq as he arrived for a three-day state visit to Italy on Monday.

The Russian president, who has a record of performing erratically on foreign trips, said that the UN secretary-general, Kofi Annan, was heading to Iraq to coordinate diplomatic efforts to resolve a crisis over weapons inspections.

"We spoke with Annan, the United Nations secretary-general, and he said he will coordinate all these matters and he said he would fly to Iraq," Mr. Yeltsin told reporters.

Mr. Annan, in New York, promptly denied any immediate plans to visit Baghdad. Iraq is being threatened with U.S. air strikes for refusing to grant full access to UN arms inspectors.

Russia has been leading diplomatic efforts to resolve the crisis and is anxious to be seen making progress to reduce the possibility of U.S. military action.

With his wife, Naina, on his arm, Mr. Yeltsin looked vigorous as he walked down the steps of his plane.

As it headed to central Rome, his limousine was flanked by police motorcycles and two ambulances with flashing blue lights.

Italian newspapers said the ambulances would accompany Mr. Yeltsin, who turned 67 earlier this month, throughout his visit, and that operating theaters and blood facilities were on standby around the clock.

Mr. Yeltsin underwent multiple heart bypass surgery in 1996, and his health has frequently given cause for concern. In December, he spent two weeks at a sanatorium near Moscow recovering from a viral infection.

But on Monday he projected the image of a reasonably healthy man, shedding his overcoat before a welcoming ceremony at the Quirinal Palace with President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro.

He also walked the length of the palace courtyard, albeit slightly stiffly, past a marching band, a regiment of soldiers and 23 equestrian guards whose armor shone in the late-afternoon light.

Mr. Yeltsin later introduced Mr. Scalfaro to his daughter, Tatiana Dyachenko, who is his adviser.

Mr. Yeltsin's trip to Rome was his first foreign visit this year and his first to Italy since the Soviet Union collapsed in 1991.

On a visit to Sweden in December, Mr. Yeltsin raised eyebrows with a series of gaffes and breaches of protocol. Among others, he kept King Carl XVI Gustaf waiting and wrongly referred to Germany and Japan as nuclear powers.

Mr. Yeltsin told reporters at Fiumicino Airport that he and Pope John Paul II would talk about celebrations for the year 2000 when they met Tuesday. They met once before in 1991.

Asked whether he would invite the 77-year-old pontiff to Moscow, the Russian leader replied jokingly: "I've already invited him several times," adding, "I'll fulfill your requests and invite him again."

But the Kremlin has said that Mr. Yeltsin will not clear the way for a papal visit to Russia because of long-standing objections from the Russian Orthodox Church.

Mr. Yeltsin also said he was due to sign billions of dollars worth of deals, and he sounded upbeat about the effects of the transactions on the economic recovery of his country.

Agreement ready for signature during Mr. Yeltsin's visit include an \$850 million contract between the automakers Fiat SpA of Italy and Russia's AO Gorkovsky Avtomobilny Zavod, for the manufacture of up to 150,000 Fiats annually in Russia.



RUSSIAN IN ROME — President Boris Yeltsin, arriving Monday for a three-day visit, was to meet with President Luigi Scalfaro and the Pope.

dreds dead. Some reports have linked government forces to the slayings.

On Sunday, the authorities rejected a request by the European delegation to visit massacre sites.

During a meeting Sunday night with Algerian lawmakers, Anne-Andree Leonard, asked about Algerians who were missing in the conflict.

The Algerian lawmakers instead asked the Europeans to help by cutting off sources of foreign cash and arms used by the militants in their drive to bring down the military-backed government.

The nine-member fact-finding mission from the European Parliament, which arrived Sunday for a five-day visit, was to gather information on the insurgency after massacres last month that left hun-

thousands dead. Some reports have linked government forces to the slayings.

On Sunday, the authorities rejected a request by the European delegation to visit massacre sites.

During a meeting Sunday night with Algerian lawmakers, Anne-Andree Leonard, asked about Algerians who were missing in the conflict.

Turkey has mounted frequent cross-border incursions against Kurdish rebels with bases in northern Iraq, outside Baghdad's control since the Gulf War of 1991.

Turkish newspapers reported Saturday that the cabinet had plans to send troops into northern Iraq to create a 15-kilometer buffer zone inside the region to prevent refugees from pouring into Turkey if the United States and Iraq came to blows over arms inspections.

Turkish sources said the government's measures could take the form of tent cities and intensive humanitarian aid coordinated by the military.

More than 500,000 Iraqi Kurds massed near the Turkish border in fear of retaliation by Baghdad following a failed Kurdish rebellion in the aftermath of the Gulf War.

But Mr. Utkan said Monday that Turkey had "no plan for a buffer zone" inside northern Iraq.

Regarding potential refugees, Mr. Utkan said, "There are ways to handle some 100 displaced persons, but if the number is 500,000, you have to take other measures."

EDITORIALS/OPINION

Herald Tribune
INTERNATIONAL**Keep Helping Asia**

Asia's currencies have stabilized, and stock markets are bouncing back. The U.S. economy continues to roll, with 358,000 jobs created last month as wages rise, unemployment remains low and the Dow Jones average forges ahead. Maybe, a member of Congress might think, the Asian financial storm has blown past. Maybe we don't have to give the IMF all those billions the Clinton administration is pressing for.

If only it were so. Unfortunately, it is too soon to relax. For millions of workers and their families in Indonesia, Thailand, South Korea and elsewhere, trouble is just beginning. Even if their nations' currencies and stock markets have bottomed out, the consequences of rising unemployment, slowed economic growth and declining standards of living have yet to unfold. To some extent, such consequences are unavoidable. But Americans have more than a humanitarian interest in mitigating Asia's pain.

So far, the economic impact on the United States has been, if anything, beneficial, as Asia's crisis dampens inflationary pressure in America. But in the coming months the impact is likely to be less positive, as competitive pressures threaten some American jobs. And if the economic crisis worsens and provokes ethnic riots in Indonesia and social instability elsewhere, the national-security and economic impact on the United States could be adverse in the extreme.

Moreover, the financial situation remains precarious. This is especially so in Indonesia, where the dictatorial President Suharto refuses to recognize the need for more democracy or to prepare the ground for a political transition. Democratic South Korea is in far better shape, thanks to the earnestness and skill with which President-elect Kim Dae Jung has devoted himself to far-reaching economic reform. But even South Korea remains vulnerable

— THE WASHINGTON POST.

Filling Tech Jobs

The sudden awareness of a rapidly expanding field for high-paid, high-skilled employment — the computer sector — has occasioned some giddiness on the policy front. The long-sleepy programs at Labor and Commerce devoted to "school-to-work" transitions and the always struggling "retraining" enterprises are humming with activity and White-House-level attention. Vice President Al Gore last month announced a package of grants pushing industry and employers to expand training programs to encourage people to retool for careers as computer engineers, technicians or systems analysts. The occasional mad dreamer is even reported setting up computer sites to impart high-tech literacy to welfare mothers and the homeless — and more power to them.

Predictions are that the high-tech sector will at least double its current crop of jobs over the next decade — that's a million more jobs — and that those jobs will depend on skills that, at least for now, are rare enough to create a seller's market for those who have had the foresight to acquire them.

You could hardly imagine a situation that tests more directly the fa-

— THE WASHINGTON POST.

Troubled Armenia

The resignation this month of Armenia's president, Levon Ter-Petrosian, was a disturbing development for peace and ethnic harmony in the Caucasus. Largely Christian Armenia is at war with its larger and richer Muslim neighbor, Azerbaijan, over Nagorno-Karabakh, an enclave in Azerbaijan populated by Armenians, who are seeking independence. In September, Mr. Ter-Petrosian, under pressure from the United States, France and Russia, announced his support for a peace plan that contained necessary compromises. These enraged hard-liners in his government and parliamentary coalition, who forced him to resign.

He was already unpopular, largely due to suspicions that he won the 1996 election through fraud. But his peace plan, seen by many Armenians as a sellout, is the only realistic solution to the Nagorno-Karabakh war, which began in 1988 after the enclave demanded Armenian rule and has killed 25,000 people, mostly civilians. It has sabotaged Armenia's economy and threatens the stability of the oil- and gas-rich Caspian Sea region. Mr. Ter-

— THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Herald Tribune
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International Herald Tribune, 181 Avenue Charles-de-Gaulle, 92521 Neuilly-sur-Seine, France.
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Internet address: <http://www.iht.com> E-Mail: iht@iht.com

Editor for Asia: Michael Pickering, 5 Canterbury Rd, Singapore 119000 Tel: (65) 472-7745, Fax: (65) 472-7744
Mag. Dir. Asia: Terry Damer, 50 Gloucester Rd, Hong Kong, Tel: 852-2622-1168, Fax: 852-2622-1100
Gen. Mgr Germany: T. Schäfer, Friedrichstrasse 15, 60323 Frankfurt, Tel: +49 69 971750-0, Fax: +49 69 971750-30
U.K. Advertising Office: 63 Long Acre, London WC2, Tel: (44) 171 836-4802, Fax: (44) 171 240-2254
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A Crisis of Political Transition Hobbles Indonesia

By Hilton L. Root

MANILA — The depth of Indonesia's problems continues to surprise international monetary officials, and worry investors and markets.

The currency has not rebounded despite a recent agreement with the IMF that cuts government spending, tightens monetary policy, restructures the banking sector and reduces opportunities for nepotism.

The agreement was expected to restore confidence and signal the commitment of President Suharto to reform. But the medicine is not working because there is a missing ingredient.

The IMF's agreement was established by decree with an autocratic ruler whose mandate derives from an electoral college that he largely appoints. It was the product of behind-the-scenes negotiations; the parties whose cooperation is needed did not participate.

The details are so confidential that even the IMF's counterpart multilateral organizations are left in the dark. How can this process inspire confidence?

The closed Indonesian accord stands in sharp contrast to the agreements reached in South Korea, where support was enlisted through electoral competition, and the possible costs of the reforms were publicly debated.

The Indonesian reforms are contestable on the grounds that they were

imposed from the outside without demonstrated domestic consensus or at least broad public support.

Aware that the reform program lacks social and political backing, investors hesitate. In an unstable political environment, what was enacted by administrative fiat can easily be overturned.

Austerity measures are likely to intensify perceived income inequality. Many Indonesians question why they should shoulder debts incurred to enrich a handful of regime cronies.

As the effects of crisis spread, groups that stand to lose most are tempted to take their dissatisfaction to the streets, increasing the probability that those who have to be used.

The reform package may also be denounced by the ruling clique as the externally imposed source of Indonesia's hardships, and by opposition groups as a sign of international colonization.

Concerns about the president's level of commitment to the IMF-mandated reforms have surfaced. In previous times of trouble, Mr. Suharto gained international confidence by supporting the policies of a team of technocrats in his government despite often fierce op-

position. He no longer has a team that inspires such confidence, and his response in applying the painful reforms, including those affecting the extensive business interests of his family and friends, has wavered.

This highlights a deeper problem: Nothing happens in Indonesia unless the president takes a direct interest.

Persistent suppression of political rights means that investors cannot assess the range of alternatives to Mr. Suharto's rule. While they are shunning an Indonesia held together by military force, they are returning to Thailand and South Korea, where elected governments are clearly committed to reform.

The IMF succeeded in getting its wish list of reforms formally accepted by Indonesia. But the package has failed to restore confidence because what was diagnosed as an economic crisis has mutated into a crisis of political transition. This creates risks that the market cannot evaluate.

Indonesia no longer has a functioning financial system because it does not have a functioning political system.

tured. Mr. Suharto recently put himself in charge of an Economic Resilience Council formed to monitor compliance with the IMF reforms because existing institutions could not be trusted.

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Indonesia no longer has a functioning financial system because it does not have a functioning political system.

The writer, a senior research fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution and author of "Small Countries, Big Lessons: Governance and the Rise of East Asia," contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

Expect Most of Diverse East Asia to Come Storming Back

By Gregory Clark

TOKYO — As Asia's collapsed currencies and stock markets continue to recover, what happens to recent Western gloating over deflated "Asian values"?

Three problems caused the recent collapses, and none of them had anything to do with "Asian values."

One was currency overvaluation due to the inflow of foreign funds chasing high growth and profits. Then there was trade imbalance, as the new rich splurged on imported goods. On top of all that was declining competitiveness as labor costs rose vis-à-vis China.

Currency and stock speculators simply provided the coup de grâce.

These problems are serious, but few in the anti-Asian-values school seem to realize that they are cured virtually auto-

matically by those currency and stock market collapses.

The excessive inflow of foreign funds is cut, the new rich become the new poor, and ability to compete with China is restored, since Beijing, unlike Taiwan, bravely refused to devalue its currency.

Provided inflation is kept under control, heavy currency devaluation means that it is only a matter of time before most of those collapsed Asian economies come storming back as even more formidable competitors than before.

The speculators realize this, and many have made small fortunes by buying back into the currencies and stock markets that they helped to topple.

The West needs to get a better handle on its Asian-values

and clash-of-civilizations phobia. In the first place, there is no such thing as common "Asian values."

In non-Western societies, there is more emphasis on personal relations and less legalism than in the West. And the Sinic-culture societies of Singapore, Taiwan, South Korea and China tend strongly to endorse the role of state and family.

But in semi-feudalistic Japan it is the immediate group that is all-important. Japan is much closer to the post-feudal North European model than to any Sinitic or Asian model.

The Southeast Asians — the Philippines, Indonesia and to some extent Malaysia and Thailand — belong to another and much less structured village or "cronyist" model.

As for the so-called Asian growth model, in the past it was often used in the West. It says that economies facing particular problems — rapid growth from poverty, war, depression — need a degree of central control. Free markets and laissez-faire can come later.

Why have most of the Asian nations done better than most other non-Western nations? Because a smart entrepreneurial class of largely Chinese but also some Indian origin was able and willing to invest to take advantage of cheap labor (Japan and South Korea supplied their own entrepreneurs.)

Once development started, it snowballed, since development today is not the slow accretion of capital and technology prescribed by outdated Western textbooks. It is a matter of improved infrastructure

combined with cheap labor. The more the investment, the better the infrastructure; the better the infrastructure, the more the investment.

The snowball can easily get out of control. But it can be put back on track again simply by devaluing the currency. If governments won't do that, the speculators will.

The exception is Japan, a 19th century high-labor-cost, Western-style economy suddenly having to adjust to the 21st century.

Its work ethic remains better than the West's, but that is not enough. Speculators betting on a fast Japanese recovery should be warned.

The writer, a former Australian diplomat, contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

Blair's Tune Isn't What the Continent Wants to Hear

By Roy Denman

B RUSSELS — From Brussels to London is 217 miles (350 kilometers) on the map. Politically it has been about 2,017. In Washington last week, Tony Blair made the gap another 1,000 miles broader.

It is not a bad thing for the British prime minister and the American president to be on friendly terms. Churchill and Roosevelt famously were, as were Margaret Thatcher and Ronald Reagan. For the head of a medium-sized power to be regularly received by the head of the world's superpower must be gratifying. Mr. Blair knows that it will open, for the time being, many doors for him and his team in Washington.

Of course, some of the exuberance of the meeting could be discounted because each badly needed the other. The president is dangerously under attack; he wanted to show the American people that he had a prominent

and squeaky-clean friend who believed him and stood by him. Also, preparing for an air strike against Saddam Hussein, he wanted to demonstrate that America was not isolated; at least one ally was prepared to go all the way in support.

Mr. Blair was keen to show, in the fashion of most of his predecessors, that he was the trusted and feted friend of the most powerful man in the world.

How did all this look from Continental Europe?

When John Major, who had become about as popular in Europe as Genghis Khan, was defeated, Europeans greeted

Tony Blair and his pro-European rhetoric with cries of relief. But now the bloom is off the rose. As the Dutch prime minister reminded him when Mr. Blair spoke in The Hague on Jan. 20, what is now needed is not rhetoric but commitment.

When is Tony Blair going to have a referendum and fix a date for joining the single currency? Most of the member states of the European Union will share a single currency in less than a year. In only two months' time the countries forming the bloc will start meeting on their own. Britain will be outside for at least four years and possibly longer. Britain will be increasingly marginalized in Europe.

Looking at televised images of the Blair visit to Washington, Continental Europeans must have wondered whether Britain wants anything else.

George Urban, one of Mrs. Thatcher's advisers, told how by "her all-encompassing obedience" to Ronald Reagan "she was reducing the U.K. to the status of a client state of America." Is this happening again?

There may be a call for armed action against Saddam Hussein. But does Tony Blair have to accept immediately every dot and comma of the American plan?

Slow and painful though it will be, as their economic and political integration proceeds, the Euro 11 will have to set about forging a common foreign policy. How can a Britain intent on being America's poodle ever fit in?

And what about the talk of

seminars and a "deep ideological relationship" on social issues? The British social model may be nearer the American than the Continental European, but the differences between them are still enormous. It is hard to imagine America accepting the banning of handguns, or the "socialized" medicine of the British National Health Service.

One of the major difficulties in European integration has always been the gap between the social system of Britain and those of the Continent. Europeans know that they have to make changes to their own pattern, but they attach more importance to social cohesion than the Anglo-Saxons. When they hear that Mr. Blair is considering moving his social model to converge more with the American pattern, their sense that Britain does not belong in the European club can only increase.

In his first year, Prime Minister Blair has sent two signals to Europe. One is that Britain is not prepared for at least four years, and possibly longer, to join the next momentous stage in European integration, and cannot understand why the rest will move ahead without it.

The other is that he still hankers after what, when all the rhetoric and fancy packaging is stripped away, is a client-state relationship with America.

The writer, a former representative of the European Commission in Washington, contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

Britain Between Superpowers

By Michael Elliott

Second, there is something suspiciously easy about the Blair-Clinton duet. The special relationship doesn't need much work. Everyone speaks English; a common North Atlantic market for education, the media and the entertainment business means that there are a thousand webs of old friendships and mutual understandings. Classical economic theory — invented in Britain, perfected in the United States — provides a sort of intellectual glue to policy discussions.

It is much harder for Britons or Americans to find the same common ground with the Germans or the French. Yet that task is now crucial for both countries.

Under French-German leadership, the European Union is slowly, gradually becoming a political and economic superpower. Almost certainly, 11 of the 15 nations of the EU will form a currency union next year; their economic and social policies will then gradually converge under shared political institutions.

This development holds great promise for the United States, allowing it to share the burden of economic and political firefighting around the world.

American leaders know this. In answer to a question at a World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, last week, three prominent Americans — Ambassador Bill Richardson, Deputy Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers and Speaker of the House of Representatives Newt Gingrich — all said they would unreservedly welcome the development of the EU as a second democratic superpower.

It would help Washington

enormously if Britain were a committed member of the new Europe, able to act as an interlocutor between the United States and other European powers. At a joint press conference last week, for example, Mr. Blair touched on a subject of deep concern to the U.S. administration — the need to build a strong relationship between Europe and Turkey.

As the Iraq crisis is showing, it is nice for both countries' militaries to be able to depend on each other. But Britain cannot yet help the United States as much as it might. For good reasons or bad, early membership of the currency union has become the litmus test of being a "good European."

Mr. Blair has said that Britain will not join until his

INTERNATIONAL

For British Press, 'Diana' Is Still an Untold Story (and a Big Seller, Too)

By Warren Hoge
New York Times Service

LONDON — With Diana, Princess of Wales, gone, a new press code in place and the comparatively straight-laced officials of Prime Minister Tony Blair's new Labor government offering scant opportunities for keyhole discoveries, the British press has had to extend even its storied reach to turn up front-page stories.

Newspapers have sought to exploit the only lapse thus far in Mr. Blair's ranks — Foreign Secretary Robin Cook's leaving his wife to marry his secretary — but it has simply amounted to giving Mr. Blair some practice at damage control of a kind that is quaint, compared with what he witnessed at the White House last week.

To half flagging circulation, magazines and newspapers are recycling news about the late princess and are

casting about for stand-in figures, usually blond ones, for the day, evidently still distant, when every Diana tale has been told.

Recent weeks have seen "So, Did Diana Really Love Charles Until the Day She Died?" and "Queen Fights to Stop New Diana Secrets" in The Daily Mail, "The Diana Conspiracies" and "Di Ecstasy Tablets Being Sold in London" in The Evening Standard, "How Safe Are the Secrets of Diana?" in The Daily Telegraph, "Diana Song No. 1 for Funerals" in The Independent, "Di Butler I Want to Run Fund" in The Sun, and "5 Million Calls to Di Gravé Hotline" in The Mirror.

The Daily Mail has begun a 200-page series of "the full untold story of her life" accompanied by offers of "Diana Rose Bushes" and "Fabulous Diana Video."

On successive days The Sun and The Mirror devoted their front pages first to a

supposed feud between the Richard Branson, a British entrepreneur, and the newly knighted Sir Elton John over the recording of the song he performed at her funeral ("Wrangle in the Wind" said The Sun), and then to the \$800,000 bid the princess's lawyers submitted for 11 days of work on her memorial fund ("Shameful" said The Mirror.)

The article with top play in The Daily Telegraph raised an issue that the press itself has apparently not yet contemplated. The headline read, "Royal Family to Look to Their Future Without Diana."

Roy Greenslade, the press critic of The Guardian, said, "The way papers are maintaining Diana's status as a sales gimmick, quite apart from its tastelessness, smells of ingenuity at best and desperation at worst."

There is no more competitive newspaper market in the world than Britain, with its 11 national dailies and nine national Sunday papers.

They fight one another with price cuts, beefed-up weekend papers, promotional gimmicks, such as cheap travel tickets and human-interest stories whose detail outweighs their consequence.

Their circulations are enormous and sensitive to stories that keep reader interest, producing fluctuations that can quickly get into hundreds of thousands of readers.

The Audit Bureau of Circulation figures for September, the month that attention to Diana was the highest, showed The Sun at 3.9 million, The Mirror at 2.4 million, The Daily Mail at 2.3 million and The Daily Telegraph at 1.1 million. By December, those numbers had declined between 4 percent and 9 percent.

There may have been a brief recovery in the past 10 days with the broad attention the papers have paid to the Washington sex scandal, but the only sustainable subject British editors seem to trust is Diana.

But the need for new talent has obliged the press to begin rehabilitating Diana's former sister-in-law, Sarah Ferguson, the duchess of York, who after a period of being dismissed as too lightweight to be of interest to anyone but Americans was pictured in Tuscany with a favorably portrayed 48-year-old millionaire Italian nobleman.

The press has maintained the discretion it promised in its treatment of the royal family. Over the Christmas holidays, Prince Charles asked that photographers confine to one posed photo session their coverage of a vacation he and his sons, Princes William and Harry, took to the Swiss ski resort of Klosters, and the only violators were French paparazzi whom royal security men chased off the mountain.

■ Could Diana Have Survived?

The torn pulmonary vein blamed for causing the death of Diana in a car crash

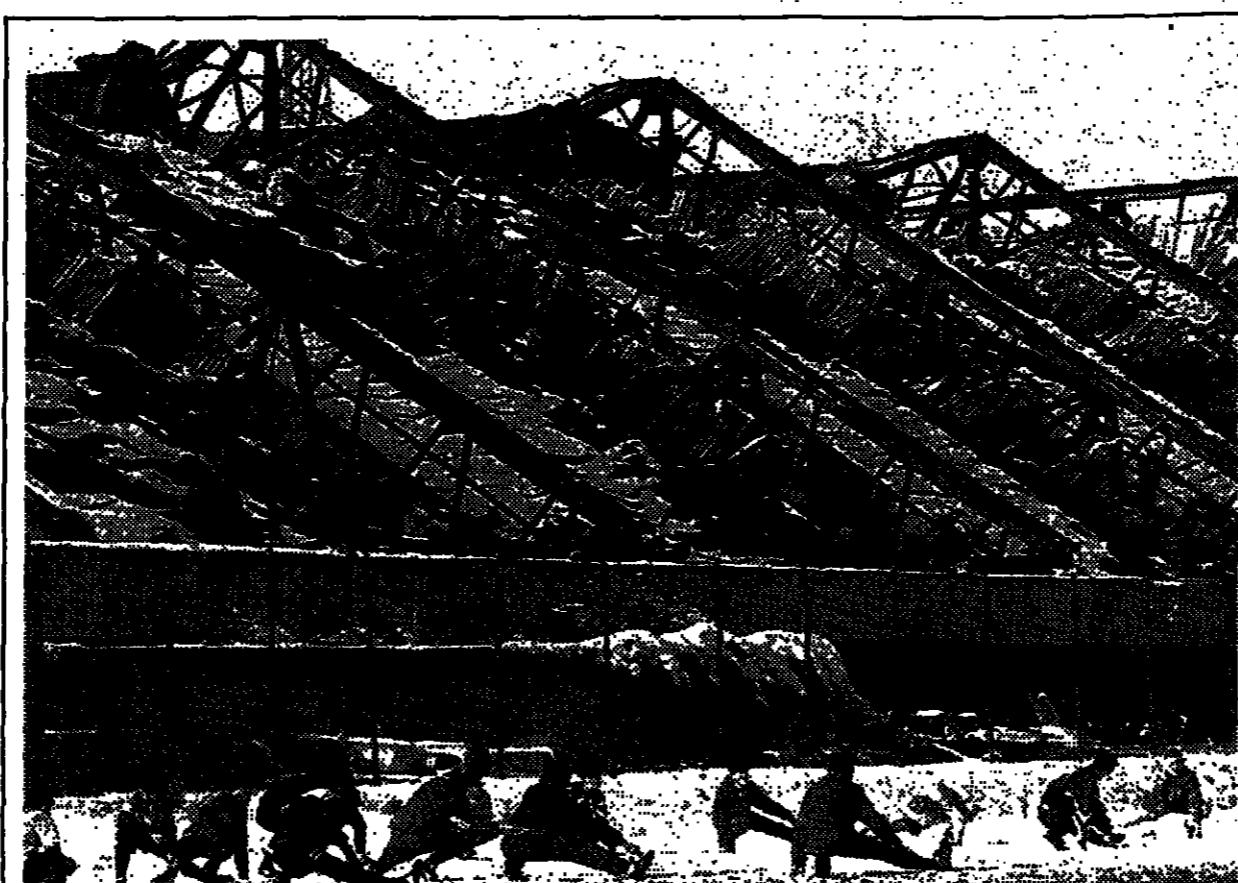
might not have killed her if she had been sent to the hospital immediately and placed on a heart-lung machine, Time magazine reported. Reuters reported from New York.

"If there is a complete rupture, the person dies very quickly, according to thoracic surgeon at a public hospital in Paris," Time reported in its Feb. 16 issue.

He said that victims who arrive alive are the ones who have incomplete ruptures of the vein. "The proof is that this patient arrived alive at the hospital, so there must not have been a complete rupture," the surgeon said.

The quotes were taken from a new book, "Death of a Princess: The Investigation," by Time's Paris bureau chief, Tom Sancton, and Middle East correspondent, Scott MacLeod.

It took an hour and 45 minutes for the princess to reach the operating room, the book reports.



ANOTHER SARAJEVO OLYMPICS? — A Sarajevo soccer team exercising Monday in front of the Zetra skating stadium, used in the 1984 Winter Games but destroyed by Bosnian Serb shelling in 1992. The governor of Sarajevo canton, Midhat Haracic, wants the city to be the site of the 2010 Games.

STAR: Ex-Intern Said to Face Subpoena

Continued from Page 1

week. One of her lawyers, William Ginsburg, has said he plans to file a motion in federal court saying Mr. Starr's representatives reneged on a written offer of immunity and asking the court to enforce the offer. The independent counsel's office says no final offer was made.

If the motion is rejected, Ms. Lewinsky, 24, is expected to exercise her constitutional right not to testify when testimony might tend to incriminate the witness. If she does take shelter behind her Fifth Amendment rights, Mr. Starr could then seek to offer her more limited "use" immunity, shielding her only from any prosecution based directly on her testimony.

Mr. Starr has cast a wide net in his investigation, apparently seeking to

JUDGE: Her Legal Aide

Continued from Page 1

in his wife's business, Mr. Wright makes no apologies. Asked if his presence in her chambers at the closed meeting last spring was inappropriate, Mr. Wright said, "No, because I wouldn't talk about it."

Since being assigned to the Jones case four years ago, Judge Wright, an appointee of President George Bush, has been criticized by Republicans and Democrats alike. She is also under enormous pressure on other fronts. She is overseeing the complicated Little Rock school desegregation effort. She has also been criticized by legal observers for keeping the convicted felon Susan McDougal, one of Mr. Clinton's partners in the original Whitewater land deal, imprisoned for 17 months for Mrs. McDougal's continued refusal to testify about the president.

In the Jones case, she has been faulted by legal observers for failing to enforce her own gag order despite flagrant and now routine leaks.

Within days of the president's deposition Jan. 17, there were reports that he had admitted for the first time to an affair with Gennifer Flowers. Mr. Clinton's reputed testimony about his relationship with Ms. Lewinsky also became public.

"In private she has fussed to the lawyers about the leaks," Mr. Wright said. "The gag order has served one useful purpose: to prevent the lawyers from commenting on the substance on TV."

Despite criticism of the judge from some Democrats, Mr. Wright believes his wife has been fair to the president. "Clinton should be pretty happy with her," he said.

Judge Wright comes from a long line of prominent local lawyers — father, uncle, grandfather — and was raised in a traditional southern Democratic household. Her husband said she started out as a Democrat herself in the 1960s, working on a couple of local campaigns.

She interned for then-Representative John Paul Hammerschmidt, Republican of Arkansas, in the early 1970s, and was there in 1974 when he was unsuccessfully challenged by a political newcomer named Bill Clinton.

In the 1980s, both Wrights were active George Bush supporters; she led Lawyers for Bush in Arkansas during his 1988 campaign.

Susan Wright's first encounter with Mr. Clinton came in the mid-1970s, when she took an admiralty law course taught by him at Arkansas. In what has become a legendary story, Mr. Clinton lost a pile of exams — including Judge Wright's — and offered all his students a B+. Judge Wright refused — desiring to maintain her average — and asked to take a different exam.

But she had to negotiate with Mr. Clinton's fiancée, Hillary Rodham, also teaching at the school, according to Mr. Wright, because Mr. Clinton was already out campaigning. She ultimately got her A — and went on to become the first woman to serve as editor of the school's law review.

■ Wright's Disclaimer

Mr. Wright said Monday that the Washington Post report exaggerated his influence on his wife's decision-making. The Associated Press reported from Little Rock.

"I don't decide my wife's cases; I never have," Mr. Wright said. "I don't know how my wife will rule."

Mr. Wright said that The Washington Post used remarks he had made off the record for the feature story about his wife, and that it took some comments out of context.

The Post's executive editor, Leonard Downie Jr., said the newspaper stood by the article. "I've not heard anything to question the story," Mr. Downie said. "No such complaint has been made to me. I'd be very surprised if the context wasn't correct."

build a case against Mr. Clinton that is not dependent on Ms. Lewinsky, whose credibility has been questioned. She herself allegedly says, on one of the tapes secretly made of her talking about a relationship with Mr. Clinton, that she has frequently lied.

In what appears to be the latest of the leaks that has infuriated the White House, Newsweek magazine has reported that Ashley Raines, an Arkansas native who works in the White House Office of Administration, told the grand jury that she heard Ms. Lewinsky talking about an affair with Mr. Clinton.

The magazine reported that Ms. Lewinsky had played for Ms. Raines tape-recorded telephone messages the president allegedly left on the former intern's answering machine.

The report about Ms. Raines was denounced by a White House spokesman, Joe Lockhart, as being part of "a campaign of misinformation and intimidation" by Mr. Starr.

Another report, that a presidential valet had told the grand jury he had seen Mr. Clinton and Ms. Lewinsky alone together, was retracted Monday by The Wall Street Journal. News reports have emerged almost daily citing unnamed people "close to the office of the independent counsel" or "with knowledge of the grand jury investigation."

Mr. Starr has defended the professionalism of his staff, but added that he was concerned about the alleged leaks and would investigate to learn their source. He promised to "take appropriate action" against any offenders.

Some Republicans have suggested that the leaks might have been preemptively released by the White House with timing calculated to lessen their impact.

Ms. Lewis, the White House communications director, denied that.

"You will not find any evidence that the White House has been the source of unauthorized release of information," she said. "We have not done that. We are under very clear direction from White House counsel that we will not go down that path."

An aide to Mr. Gingrich confirmed, meanwhile, that House Republicans had discussed expanding the staff of the Judiciary Committee if there is a possibility of impeachment proceedings.

"It was a passing acknowledgment that should Starr run over papers, the committee would need more personnel," said a Gingrich spokeswoman, Christina Martin.

The Capitol Hill newspaper Roll Call has reported that Mr. Gingrich and other Republican leaders discussed drawing on a \$4.4 million fund to help pay for impeachment proceedings.

Continued from Page 1

anticipating a refusal, Mr. Cohen did not ask Saudi Arabia for permission to use its air bases for attack missions.

He said that with two U.S. carriers in the Gulf the U.S. military could do without the Saudi bases.

"We are confident that the Gulf partners will provide the necessary support," he said at a news conference.

Mr. Clinton has committed the United States to impeding Iraq's programs to build weapons of mass destruction and is on course to launch an attack in the coming weeks unless it allows a UN program to destroy such weapons to go ahead.

The extra planes were being sent as the UN secretary-general, Kofi Annan, put off a visit to Italy and the Middle East, saying in New York that "the discussions and the search for a diplomatic solution have reached a critical stage."

The deputy prime minister of Iraq, Tariq Aziz, spoke by telephone Monday with Mr. Annan, the Iraqi News Agency

reported. It gave no details of the conversation, but said it had come "in the framework of continued discussions and contacts between Iraq and the international organization."

Mr. Clinton and Prime Minister Tony Blair of Britain, the sole state so far prepared to join Washington in a military attack, have said they prefer a diplomatic solution to the crisis but will go ahead with a substantial strike if needed.

Mrs. Albright, speaking at the American Enterprise Institute after talks with the foreign ministers of Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic about their plans to join NATO, said she had secured their backing for military action in Iraq. "They all said they are ready to support us as appropriate should military action become necessary," she said. She did not say whether she meant moral, political or material support.

Unlike the regional and international backing given to the coalition formed in 1990 to drive Iraqi forces out of Kuwait, Washington has been unable to rally

many countries to its call for military action to stop Iraq's weapons programs.

Although there is almost universal agreement that Mr. Saddam must comply with UN sanctions and stop blocking the teams funding and dismantling the weapons programs, most Arab states will not publicly back the use of force.

Mr. Annan said Monday that he did not intend to visit Baghdad "at the moment." But his spokesman, Fred Eckhard, said the secretary-general had not ruled out such a trip; rather, he was waiting to see what the Security Council wanted him to do and if "he feels he can accomplish something by going."

"He is monitoring the efforts of the various parties who are seeking a diplomatic solution and he hopes that one can be found," Mr. Eckhard said.

Mr. Annan said he had postponed a 10-day visit to Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan, Israel, the Palestinian Authority and Syria, due to have begun Wednesday after a brief stay in Rome.

The protest comes several weeks after a separate legal action by four other German economists, who filed a suit in the nation's constitutional court to block the euro plan.

The court is expected to decide on hearing the case at the end of this month, although most legal experts predict that the case will be dismissed.

But thus far, discussion about the euro remains top-down affair.

"As far as I can see, there can't be a very politically effective campaign against the euro, because both of the great parties have agreed," said Werner Patzelt, a professor of political economics at Dresden Technical University. "The public simply has no chance to get out its bad feelings about the euro, because the power elite has assembled its own feelings on the subject."

Halldor Laxness, Icelandic Author, Is Dead at 95

Reuters

REYKJAVIK — Halldor Laxness, a Nobel Prize-winning author and playwright, died Sunday after having suffered from Alzheimer's disease for several years. He was 95.

Mr. Laxness was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1955, the only Icelander to win a Nobel Prize.

He was an overwhelmingly important author for Iceland, with more than 60 novels, plays and essays," said Vesturin Olafsson, professor of literature at the University of Iceland.

Mr. Laxness began his career as a surreal novelist, but is best known for his social realism of the 1930s.

"Due to his leftist politics, his reputation suffered substantially in Iceland, especially with the right, and didn't

recover until he was awarded the Nobel Prize," Mr. Olafsson said.

His best-known novel is "Independent People," a two volume work published in 1931-32. After winning the Nobel Prize, Mr. Laxness turned his hand to plays, which were shown mainly in Iceland.

Rene de Epelbaum, 77, Defied Argentina's Military Junta

BUENOS AIRES (NYT) — Rene de Epelbaum, 77, a founder of the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo human rights group and one of its most dynamic members, died Saturday of a heart attack.

In 1977, during its crackdown on leftists, the military dictatorship abducted her three adult children, Luis,

Lila, and Claudio, and presumably killed them. Mrs. Epelbaum offered her home as a meeting place for mothers in the same plight. Soon after, the group of mothers began holding weekly protests in the main government square, the Plaza de Mayo.

Mrs. Epelbaum, who once taught literature, was a fearless and outspoken critic of the military government. Her writings, speeches, and trips abroad helped earn the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo international acclaim. She also is credited with bringing worldwide attention to the atrocities of Argentina's military regime, which relinquished power in 1983.

Dr. Robert Hughes Brisbane, 84, a retired social scientist and historian at

Morehouse College who wrote about the civil rights movement in its early years, died Jan. 23 in Atlanta. In 1984, Morehouse established the Brisbane Institute to promote his political and educational objectives.

William Lambert, 78, a pioneer of investigative journalism and winner of a Pulitzer Prize, died Sunday in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, of a respiratory ailment. A story he wrote helped compel Justice Abe Fortas to resign from the Supreme Court in 1969. His story, which won the George Polk award for magazine reporting, said Justice Fortas took \$20,000 in 1966 from the stock swindler Louis Wolfson while serving on the bench. Mr. Fortas resigned nine days after the story appeared in Life.

The author Halldor Laxness was the only Icelander to receive a Nobel Prize.

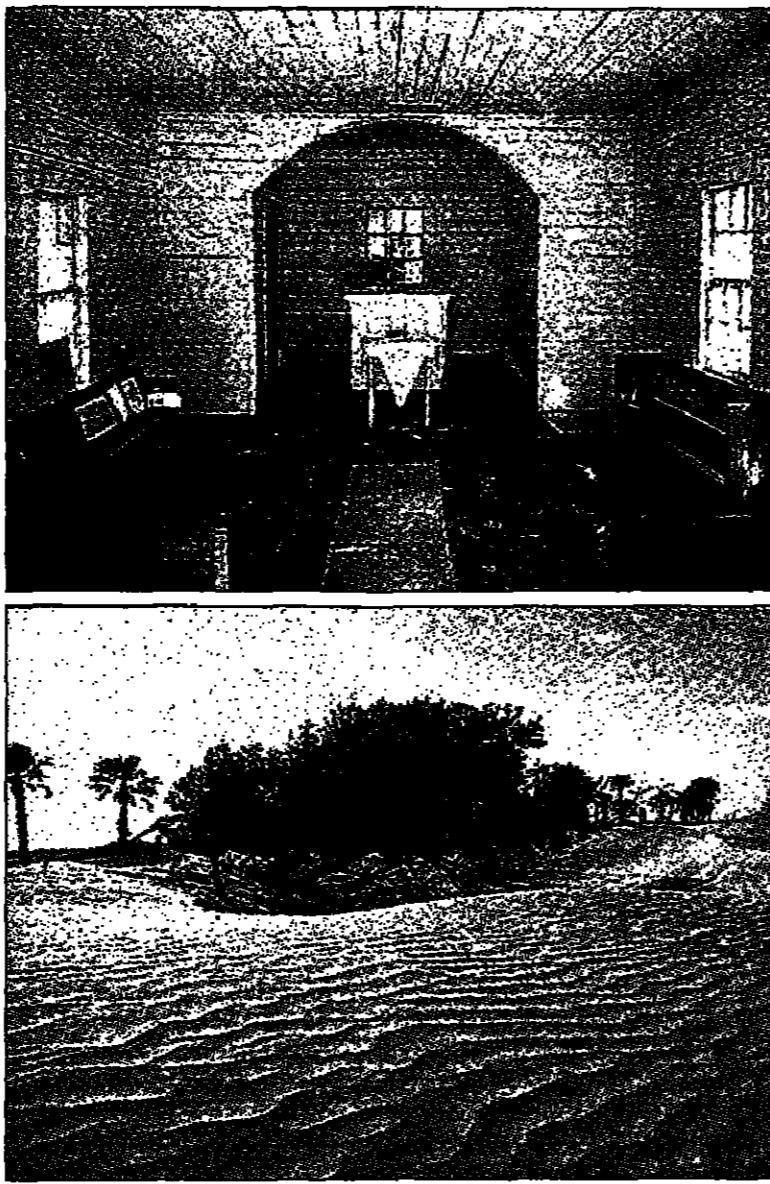
night. A nighttime curfew has been imposed.

The Ende violence — the worst so far

in Indonesia's seven-month-old economic crisis — follows a similar outbreak on Saturday in Bimba, on Sumbawa Island in West Nusa Tenggara province. There have also been recent outbursts of violence, usually aimed at Chinese-Indonesians, in East and Central Java, and in South and Central Sulawesi.

The violence has almost exclusively occurred in rural areas far from Jakarta, and in areas still suffering the effects of a lingering drought.

As the mob rampaged through Ende, a coastal town of about 66,000 people on Flores Island, about 1,000 miles east of Jakarta. According to



From left: Janet (Gogo) Ferguson at Plum Orchard mansion; First African Baptist Church, where John Kennedy Jr. and Carolyn Bessette were married; vast, undeveloped stretch of beach, and the mansion Plum Orchard.

Cumberland Island, the Last Bastion of the Gilded Age

By Linda Hales

CUMBERLAND ISLAND, Georgia — The wedding party of famous friends slipping across the dunes had all the makings of a Vanity Fair sketch — society, culture, history, style. Controversy and politics weren't far behind.

... Heading for the endless white sand beach to witness vows as the ocean thundered were the actress Isabella Rossellini, the feminist writer Susan Faludi, John Henningway, son of Papa, plus others with connections far beyond this outpost of civilization.

No, they were not guests at the marriage of John Kennedy Jr. and Carolyn Bessette. That low-key, high-profile event 17 months ago gave a blast of recognition to this unadventured stretch of sand, marsh and forest. But this was the earlier wedding of an island royal:

Jinet (Gogo) Ferguson, descendant of a Carnegie steel baron who once owned all the eye could see. (Europeans wrap themselves in culture, but Ferguson's photo album records New World protocol as bare feet)

and sand with connections far beyond this outpost of civilization.

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Ferguson, a 46-year-old jewelry designer, is a glimmer of Old Money in an enclave that bears stark witness to the passing of the Gilded Age. She is also a point person in the current controversies over preserving her family's legacy on the island, notably an uninhabited mansion called Plum Orchard.

"When I start seeing my heritage fall in, I can't sit back," she says.

CARNEGIES wielded power on this 18-mile-long (29-kilometer) barrier island for a century or so, along with related Rockefellers and the Candler's of Atlanta (who founded Coca-Cola). But the dispersal of fortunes, the rise of the green movement and the lure of a picture-perfect vacation have brought change to this paradise island.

"That kind of wealth is gone," says Ferguson. "Half the family comes down once a year."

Over the past quarter century, as resorts and developments proliferated up and down the Atlantic coast, these fam-

ilies sold off land to the national park system. Most reserved lifetime rights to the mansions and cottages their forebears had built before income tax. But the island is destined to revert to wilderness as some indefinite point in the future, a topic that tempts tropical in south Georgia.

"If you're interested in writing a novel, you've gone to the right island," says Representative Jack Kingston, Republican of Georgia, in whose district the island resides. "It's a Peyton Place full of intrigue."

In the latest round, Kingston is pushing a \$19 million cash-for-Carnegie land swap that would save federal funds, put Canders back in their island mansions for good, and thoroughly annoy conservationists.

Just an hour from the posh golf resorts of north Florida, Cumberland island has the other worldly exoticism of a fashion shoot staged in, say, the Amazon. It is lush with gnarled oak and saw palmettos, wild horses and ibis in flight, and such eerie scenes as a weather-beaten duck-hunting cottage half swallowed by migrating dunes.

The nearest fashion statement is Ferguson's jewelry. She preserves nature in silver and gold wax-cast baubles — earrings shaped like raccoon bones, bracelets of rattlesnake vertebrae — which she sells on Martha's Vineyard. (Hillary Rodham Clinton has a "power jewelry" necklace of armadillo scales, she says.) Ferguson is godmother to Nicole Miller's child, which explains the presence of Miller's ties in her studio, the only "shop" in the wilderness.

Only a few dozen people reside in an area one-third larger than Manhattan. There are no parking lots, no signs, no noise. Only residents can drive the single sandy spine of road. Public access is controlled by ferry. Most hikers are off island at nightfall.

The only place to stay is Greyfield, a 1901 Southern-style mansion little changed from the era of Ferguson's great-grandmother, Margaret Carnegie. It welcomes guests like well-heeled friends of the family. The register records the recent stay of Holly Hunter, but few will talk about celebrity visitors like Jimmy Buffet, Jimmy Carter, Sam

Nunn, ambassadors or the Kennedy clan. A very private landing strip does exist.

"You have to come in once and buzz the wild horses off the runway," says Ferguson. "It's like Africa."

On a tour, she stops at the family cemetery. Carnegies and Rockefellers are enclosed in Tiffany gates. But the spiritual heart of the compound — the 44-room turreted Castle Dungeness built in 1884 — is a statuesque ruin from a fire in 1959. The indoor squash court, pool and gym are still collapsing. A row of vintage autos is rusting under the pines.

To the north, the sprawling 1898 Greek Revival-style house called Plum, once the scene of dazzling dinners and now a ward of the park service, is under siege from salt air. In the past decade, the house has cost the park service more than \$700,000 on restoration. For about \$5 million, Denis Davis, the park superintendent, says, the right candidate could win a 50-year lease — and a foothold in the Gilded Age.

BEFORE the turn of the last century, Ferguson's great-great-grandfather Thomas and his brother Andrew controlled 25 percent of the U.S. steel business from their barony in Pittsburgh. Thomas and his wife, Lucy, joined the fashionably rich of their era, who flocked to the Atlantic to build winter retreats. After Dungeness, Lucy built five houses, one for each child, among them Plum and Greyfield.

That any of this remained undeveloped into the 1960s was due to a family trust. After it expired, a developer briefly acquired land and planned a resort. To preserve the land, they gave much of it over to the National Park Foundation, creating Cumberland Island National Seashore. But some heirs are still cashing out.

"It's very frustrating to me," says Ferguson. "I can't imagine selling one inch of this place. My grandmother didn't set this up for that purpose. I don't have that right to sell."

Plum Orchard shows the risks of government oversight. Built in 1898, it is the grandest of extant dwellings and was among the first to go. The roof is held

over Tiffany turtleback lamps, carved woodwork and intricate wall paper. But exterior paint is peeling, a balustrade is damaged, the indoor pool sits empty. No plan has been approved for its use.

One of the guests at Ferguson's beach wedding was the philanthropist Howard Gilman, who offered his nearby plantation to Mikhail Baryshnikov's White Oak Dance Project. Ferguson may have envisioned something similar when she proposed an artists' colony for Plum Orchard. As many as 15 people could

have lived and worked in isolation, dis-

tracted by an occasional armadillo crossing the lawn, or the splash of an alligator.

She formed a foundation, putting her old friend Kennedy on the board along with Rose Styron, wife of the author William Styron and godmother to her daughter. But it was too much of a party for wilderness advocates, park officials

said.

"I think they thought I was doing another Sedona," Ferguson says, referring to the New Age arts community in Arizona.

Two other proposals were rejected

recently, one for a bed and breakfast, the other a youth hostel. Neither would have preserved the period interiors. Neither had adequate funding.

"We are led to believe we are one of the least developed barrier islands in the world," Davis says. "This one is a natural treasure overlaid with fascinating history."

He is still looking for someone interested in both, preferably someone "with cash in hand."

Linda Hales is home and design editor of *The Washington Post*.

BOOKS

A CERTAIN JUSTICE

By P.D. James. 364 pages. \$25. Knopf.

Reviewed by Mark Baechtel

IT'S easy to see what's so addictive about mysteries. They revolve around murders, usually — those upswellings of the id that give rise to endlessly interesting speculation. They offer us the guilty pleasure of looking on as the darkest human motives and acts are explored. Dirty secrets emerge and are articulated; the author untangles and lays bare what the mare's nest of desire, fear, vendetta, ambition, envy and simple greed that lies in the hearts of even modest widows, prim lawyers and duty-obessed clerks.

And if this package isn't enough, it comes wrapped in the added pleasure of intellectual exercise. As we read, we watch over the investigators' shoulders, trying to beat the writer to the revelation. A mystery is a battle of wits, and we depend on the writer to fight fair in unwinding the skein of her tale. If she doesn't — if she's too coy with the revelation of vital information, if she brings a heretofore uninstructed villain out of the wings at the end or otherwise chunks too obviously the machinery of her contrivance — we have a right to complain.

On most of these points, P.D. James is irreproachable. The machine that is "A Certain Justice," her 14th work of fiction, whirs along smoothly for almost its entire length. James begins the book nervously by telegraphing her intention to kill a prominent and nettlesome London lawyer "four weeks, four hours and fifty minutes" into the action. This translates to roughly a hundred pages — a bit less than a third of the novel's length — during which James skillfully sketches in the details of her victim's life, fleshes out secondary characters and, by allowing us to look on as the lawyer interacts with them, establishes the suspects.

There are plenty of these. The future corpse, Venetia Aldridge, is a criminal lawyer of large talents and small personal charm, working at a venerable London firm. As the early story unfolds, as she tries to save a young lower-class tough who is accused of murdering his prostitute aunt, we learn that she is in a position to ruin a number of professional lives, and is of precisely the temperament to do it. She wins her case, and the plot thickens when, on being freed, her client promptly forms an attachment to her daughter, Octavia, whom she's neglected in favor of her career and who is disposed to do whatever will discomfit her mother. We look on as Venetia schemes and manipulates, trying to bring a swift conclusion to the romance.

Delaying the murder this way rather than opening the book with a body on the floor allows James — and, by extension, her readers — to do a good deal of what amounts to cultural anthropology. By the time the lawyer is murdered

— discovered in her locked chambers frozen in a particularly gruesome

tableau — we thoroughly understand her world and her colleagues.

It is also after the character becomes corpse at last that the book's real protagonists — Inspector Adam Dalgleish and his crew — arrive on the scene. Dalgleish — published poet, head of a highly specialized investigative unit at Scotland Yard, man of high professional standards and higher personal walls — moves with grace and acumen through the blood-soaked crime scene, guiding his more volatile staff through the interviews that unweave the tangled, web of multiple deceit and mixed motive in which the lawyer's corpse is caught. Some complaints ought to be made: Information delivered in dialogue that is clearly for the benefit of the reader, not

the investigator. A long and over-literary letter that one of the main suspects writes, ostensibly to confess to a clergyman but more obviously to tie a neat bow around the package of one part of the crime while further muddying the waters for us. A secondary character who appears briefly and, it seems primarily to add to the body count, and a twist at the end that appeared a bit too clever.

Still, these objections did little, ultimately, to mitigate my admiration of James's skill in delivering a thriller that dissipated the dreariness of a winter weekend while also engaging in philosophical speculation.

Mark Baechtel, a writer living in Iowa, wrote this for *The Washington Post*.

CHESS

By Robert Byrne

GRUENFELD DEFENSE

White	Black	White	Black
Newshow	Conquest	Neushnev	Conquest
1 d4	NT6	1 d3	b5
2 c4	g5	2 c2	b5
3 NC3	d5	21 Kf1	b5
4 Nf3	Nd5	22 Qd3	Qf5
5 e4	Nc6	23 Ng1	Qf2
6 bc	Rg7	24 Ni3	b6
7 Be4	c5	25 Qa6	Rf2
8 Ne2	d4	26 Ne5	Qe3
9 e5	Ne6	27 Ne5	Qc3
10 Be3	Bg4	28 Kg1	Rf7
11 d5	Na5	29 Rf5	Re7
12 e4	Qd7	30 Rf7	Qc2
13 Kf1	Re7	31 Ne1	Ne2
14 Kd1	cd	32 Rb8	Kh7
15 g5	e5	33 Kh2	Rg7
16 Qd5	Ne4	34 Rdb8	Bg7
17 Qd3	Ne3	35 Rd7	Qe4
18 Qe3	Qb4	36 Qd7	Qb4
		37 d6	Resigns

IN the Grandmaster Open Tournament in Groningen, the Netherlands, the Exchange Variation of the Grunfeld Defense sets in sharp relief, after 6 bc, the classical white pawn center against the hypermodern black strategy of counterattack from the wings.

The point of 10...Bg4 is subtle; after

11 f3 Na5??, White can retreat with

12 Bd3, after which 12...cd 13 cd Be6 14

Rc1? Bx2 15 Qa4 Be6 16 d5 Bd7 17

Qb4 e6 18 Nc3 ed 19 Nd5 gave White

enough positional compensation to

make a draw in the game. The Grunfeld

almost cannot be played by either Black

or White without one pawn sacrifice or

another.

During the last half-century, Black's

gambit with 11...Na5??, 12 Bf7 Rf7 13 f4

Rf1? 14 Kf1 has maintained itself well.

White's extra pawn at g4, is doubled

and thus not a full pawn value and the

white king is poorly placed.

There are plenty of these. The future

corpse, Venetia Aldridge, is a criminal

lawyer of large talents and small per-

sonal charm, working at a venerable

London firm. As the early story un-

folds, as she tries to save a young lower-class

tough who is accused of murdering his

prostitute aunt, we learn that she is in a

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Delaying the murder this way rather

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NYSE

Monday's 4 P.M. Close

The 2,400 most traded stocks of the day.

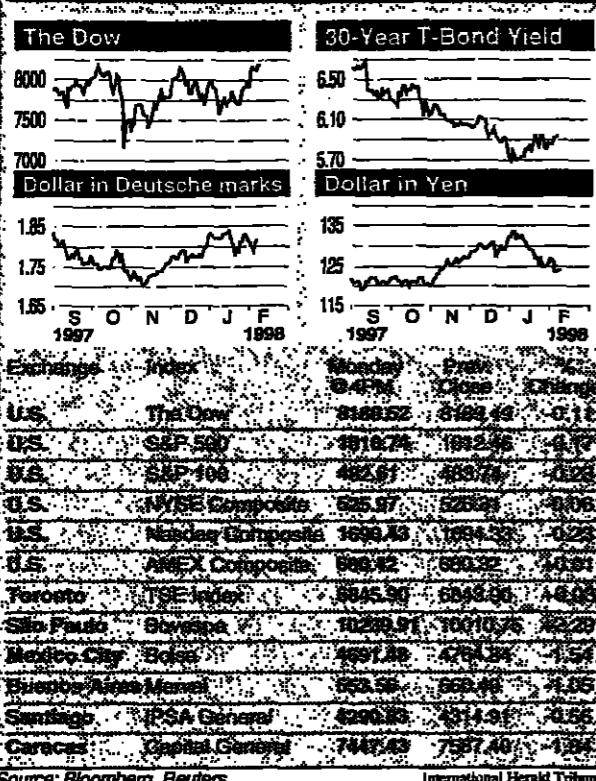
Nationwide prices not reflecting late trades elsewhere.

The Associated Press

12 Month High Low Stock Div Yld PE 100% High Low/Lated Chgs												12 Month High Low Stock Div Yld PE 100% High Low/Lated Chgs												12 Month High Low Stock Div Yld PE 100% High Low/Lated Chgs																										
High Low Stock			Div Yld PE			100% High			Low/Lated Chgs			High Low Stock			Div Yld PE			100% High			Low/Lated Chgs			High Low Stock			Div Yld PE			100% High			Low/Lated Chgs																	
284 346 AAR	\$1.12	.28	592	676	46%	47	+3	-	-	-	-	470 369 Aarschot	1.04	2.2	59	169	447	476	447	+1	195	321	349%	345	+1	-	576 476 Eascor	1.44	2.4	183	280	624	619	619	0%	-	-	-	339 339 HauseP & Co	1.25	2.4	413	137	124	124	124	0%	-	-	-
319 178 ABM	\$1.25	.28	371	426	31%	319	+1	-	-	-	-	624 476 Bender	1.74	2.1	52	325	325	325	325	+1	777	774	774	774	+1	-	579 579 Becton	1.74	2.1	136	277	476	469	469	-1%	177	177	-	224 224 Becton	1.74	2.1	136	277	476	469	469	-1%	-	-	-
181 114 ACME	\$0.95	.15	12	124	95%	95	+1	-	-	-	-	625 545 Benetton	1.25	2.2	201	111	201	201	201	+1	141	349	349	349	+1	-	579 579 Becton	1.25	2.2	15	15	15	15	15	0%	-	-	-												
7 644 ACMS	\$2.84	.24	285	305	10%	105	+1%	-	-	-	-	626 545 Benetton	1.25	2.2	42	42	42	42	42	+1	42	879	879	879	+1	-	579 579 Becton	1.25	2.2	15	15	15	15	15	0%	-	-	-												
109 454 ACMH	\$0.87	.15	245	265	10%	105	+1%	-	-	-	-	627 545 Benetton	1.25	2.2	42	42	42	42	42	+1	114	195	195	195	+1	-	579 579 Becton	1.25	2.2	15	15	15	15	15	0%	-	-	-												
157 1294 ACMH	\$1.25	.25	41	122	22%	21%	+1%	-	-	-	-	628 545 Benetton	1.25	2.2	42	42	42	42	42	+1	114	195	195	195	+1	-	579 579 Becton	1.25	2.2	15	15	15	15	15	0%	-	-	-												
276 1794 ACC Tech	\$2.24	.25	226	246	6%	6%	+1%	-	-	-	-	629 545 Benetton	1.25	2.2	42	42	42	42	42	+1	114	195	195	195	+1	-	579 579 Becton	1.25	2.2	15	15	15	15	15	0%	-	-	-												
240 579 ACCG	\$1.45	.25	2119	2219	6%	6%	+1%	-	-	-	-	630 545 Benetton	1.25	2.2	42	42	42	42	42	+1	114	195	195	195	+1	-	579 579 Becton	1.25	2.2	15	15	15	15	15	0%	-	-	-												
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276 1794 ACCG	\$1.45	.25	2119	2219	6%	6%	+1%	-	-	-	-	639 545 Benetton	1.25	2.2	42	42	42	42	42	+1	114	195	195	195	+1	-	579 579 Becton	1.25	2.2	15	15	15	15	15	0%	-	-	-												
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276 1794 ACCG	\$1.45	.25	2119	2219	6%	6%	+1%	-	-	-	-	643 545 Benetton	1.25	2.2	42	42	42	42																																

THE AMERICAS

Investor's America



Euro Dissent Lifts Dollar Against Mark

Market News

NEW YORK — The dollar rose against the Deutsche mark and other major currencies Monday after a group of German academics and economists called for a delay in adopting a single European currency.

The challenge to Europe's plan for a monetary union led investors to take a cautious interest in dollars, particularly in light of the continuing

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

ing concern about Asian markets, said Stephen Flanagan, chief dealer at Erste Bank.

Before the Asian financial crisis, any hint of a delay in European monetary union would lift the mark. But global uncertainty now highlights the strong U.S. economic fundamentals instead, Mr. Flanagan said.

The dollar also was supported by fears of a U.S. military strike against Iraq if President Saddam Hussein refuses to allow full access to United Nations arms inspectors, traders said. In late trading, the dollar was at 1.8165 DM, up from 1.8083 DM on Friday, and 1.4215 yen, up from 1.4201 yen. It also rose to 1.4653 Swiss francs from 1.4585 francs and to 6.0980 French francs from 6.0580 francs. The pound fell to \$1.6295 from \$1.6435.

Earlier in the day, the yen was up slightly on expectations of aggressive Japanese measures to spur the economy before finance minister from the Group of Seven leading industrialized countries meet Feb. 21. But some investors expressed doubt. "The Japanese have only disappointed market expectations on these packages," Mr. Flanagan said.

Intel led the technology stocks down, falling 1 35/64 to 86 after

CVS to Become Biggest U.S. Drugstore Chain

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

WOONSOCKET, Rhode Island — CVS Corp. said Monday it would buy the Michigan drugstore chain Arbor Drug Inc. for \$1.48 billion in stock, edging past Walgreen Co. to become the largest U.S. drug chain.

The combined company would have revenue exceeding \$15 billion in 1998, would own 4,100 stores in 25 states and the District of Columbia and would dispense about 12 percent of the retail prescriptions in the United States.

The acquisition will give CVS a foothold in the Detroit market, where it has no stores. CVS said the combination would produce annual

Is the U.S. Isolated on Data-Encryption Stance?

By Jeri Clausing
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration is losing its battle to increase international controls over how reliably computer data can be scrambled to ensure privacy, according to a report that was to be released Monday by an independent research group.

The White House has been lobbying members of the European Union and other industrialized nations to back its efforts to place controls on "strong encryption," technology for scrambling data so effectively that the code cannot be broken and the content cannot be deciphered without a digital key. Data encryption is used to protect the privacy of financial transactions, medical records and business communications. Washington wants the ability to unscramble all

encrypted messages to keep tabs on criminals. In the report, the Electronic Privacy Information Center, a Washington-based research group, says that its survey of 243 governments showed that the United States is virtually the only democratic, industrialized nation seeking domestic regulation of strong encryption.

That finding contradicts the administration's assertion in congressional hearings that it has the support of most nations on this issue.

David Sobel, who directed the study by the research group for the Global Internet Liberty Campaign, a civil-liberties advocacy group, said of the administration: "They make the claim that other countries are accepting the U.S. position on this, then in an attempt to make that a reality, our government launched a worldwide lobbying campaign on encryption policy."

William Reusch, the undersecretary for ex-

port administration at the U.S. Commerce Department, denied that the study contradicted the administration's assertions. "All the administration has ever said is that there are more countries that go farther than we do," Mr. Reusch said. "The study confirms that."

The report comes as Congress prepares to renew what has become a contentious debate on a encryption policy. Currently, the United States controls only the export of strong encryption. But the administration is pushing for a system that would give a third party a set of "spare keys" to all scrambled data so that law enforcement agencies could gain easy access to a otherwise uncrackable computer files.

The FBI is pushing for a mandatory key-recovery system that would guarantee the agency "immediate" access to the communications and data of suspected criminals.

PageNet Will Cut 1,800 Jobs in U.S. And Take a Charge

Bloomberg News

DALLAS — Paging Network Inc. said Monday it would cut 1,800 jobs, or 30 percent of its U.S. workforce, after failing prices and competition from new wireless phones cut into its sales and led to a fourth-quarter loss.

The company said it would take a first-quarter charge of \$65 million to \$80 million as a result. It also plans to expand its sales force and consolidate customer service and other operations, saving \$45 million to \$55 million a year and aiming to raise sales by \$75 million.

Paging Network, the world's largest paging company, is struggling as new two-way pagers have failed to take off and prices for paging services have plummeted.

Those market conditions led one rival, MobileMedia Corp., to seek bankruptcy-law protection last year and Metrocall Inc. to report a wider-than-expected third-quarter loss.

Paging Network had a fourth-quarter loss of \$42.7 million, compared with a loss of \$51.7 million a year earlier.

The company's shares closed Monday at \$14.0625, up 6.25 cents.

It planned charge would be its second since August, when John Fraze became chairman and chief executive after the two top executives of the company resigned.

A month later, PageNet said it would restate its 1996 and first-half 1997 results and take a \$22.5 million charge for pagers it had leased to MCI Communications Corp., that were not generating revenue.

Long Pound Pulls

London Stock Exchange

tion Stance!

administration at the U.S. Commerce Dept. denied that the study contradicted its own assertions. "All the other things we have ever said is that there are no more to go further than we do," Mr. van Miert said. "The study confirms that." The report comes as Congress prepares a new policy. Currently, the United States only the export of strong encryption technology is pushing for a law to all scrambled data so that even the most agencies could gain easy access. The FBI is pushing for a mandatory key system that would guarantee immediate access to the code and data of suspected criminals.

PageNet Will Cut 1,800 Jobs in U.S. And Take a Charge

DALLAS — PageNet Inc. said Monday it would cut 1,800 of its 2,700 employees in the U.S. force after raising prices and revenue from data services by 10 percent last year and led to a quarter loss.

The company said it would first-quarter charges of \$6 million as a result. It also to expand its sales force and operations, raising \$4.5 million in the second quarter and another \$5.5 million in the third quarter.

PageNet's largest page service, is going to have a price increase effective March 1, 1998, the company said.

PageNet's chairman, Mr. Michael J. Murphy, said the company has been operating in Europe since 1989 under an exemption to a European law that prohibits any

By Edmund L. Andrews
New York Times Service

Film Dispute: Europe Wants a Bigger Role

many countries, and American releases account for as much of three-quarters of their revenue. At the same time, the expansion of digital television has led to bidding wars for pay-per-view broadcasts rights from American studios.

The trend is not accidental. The underlying direction of policy at the European Commission has moved toward forcing more open competition in every part of the economy — media included. Torn between promoting national cultures and open markets, the much-maligned euro-critics generally push for the latter. More often than not, American suppliers have been big beneficiaries.

But the tensions are real. On Thursday, the European Commission's member for competition, Karel van Miert, said he wanted to revoke an exemption that had been issued to United International Pictures, a European distribution company owned by Paramount, MCA and MGM.

UIP has been operating in Europe since 1989 under an exemption to a European law that prohibits any

agreements that "potentially restrict competition." UIP sells movies from its three owners to theaters around Europe, allowing the studios to save money by sharing the costs of a joint distribution organization. Hollywood's other big studios — Disney, Warner Brothers and Twentieth Century Fox — distribute their movies in Europe independently.

Mr. van Miert remained vague about his objections to UIP, but neither he nor other officials in Brussels have argued that the company did anything wrong. They say simply that Europe has not received much benefit. A key issue, according to both industry and commission officials, is that UIP is not doing as much to promote European movie producers as they had hoped.

In winning its exemption in 1989, UIP agreed to distribute at least some movies from European studios. But officials close to Mr. van Miert said that nonstudio European movies accounted for only 1 percent of all the movies that UIP distributed. By contrast, they said, locally made movies in European countries

accounted for 14 percent to 24 percent of box-office sales.

"Recently, we have come to the conclusion that we don't have to tolerate it," Mr. van Miert said Thursday.

Commission officials quietly rebutted press reports that UIP was suspected of an anti-competitive practice known as block booking, or forcing theaters to accept unpopular movies as a condition for also getting big hits.

They also argued that the movie-theater industry had become more vibrant in recent years as entrepreneurs built complexes that offer moviegoers a big choice, big screens and big sound. Thus, they said, the need for exemption had diminished.

Brian Reilly, executive vice president of UIP, said the company would fight the decision and that it had lived up to its end of the deal.

"We agreed that we would make our distribution organization available for European products, contingent on our commercial judgment," he said. "We feel we have fully met our commitment."

Layoffs Loom At Top Bank In Germany

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

FRANKFURT — Deutsche Bank AG confirmed Monday that it was planning to cut 9,000 jobs within three years to increase profit and said it had no intention to acquire or merge with another bank.

The job cuts were initiated by the chief executive of Germany's largest bank, Rolf Breuer, over the weekend in the *Handelsblatt* newspaper. A spokesman for the bank confirmed the comments Monday.

Despite the bank's denial that it was looking for a partner, analysts saw the job cuts as a preparation for a deal.

"The purpose of all this is to increase profitability of the bank and the prospects of a merger," said Stephan Blanke, an analyst at LGT Bank of Liechtenstein.

Following plans for the merger of Swiss Bank Corp. and Union Bank of Switzerland, Deutsche Bank has been the subject of increasing speculation. The Swiss merger, to be completed this year, will displace Deutsche Bank as the biggest bank in Europe months before the start of the single European currency Jan. 1.

The bank only two weeks ago played down the possibility of major job cuts. Analysts noted the apparent change in the bank's position.

"If Deutsche Bank thinks it is the best, then it should back it up with earnings," said Tanja Steffens, banking analyst at Hamburgische Landesbank Girozentrale. "But at the moment they just send out confusing signals by occasionally confirming that they are interested in an acquisition and occasionally denying it. That is not good for Deutsche's image."

Deutsche Bank shares fell 3.55 Deutsche marks on Monday, to close at 123.05 DM.

Mark Hoge, a banking analyst at Credit Suisse First Boston in London, said Deutsche Bank's comments on restructuring measures, job cuts and merger plans were inconsistent.

"At the moment, they don't seem to have a clear direction," he said. "You do not need to have a magic strategy — but if you don't, you've got to be consistent."

Mr. Breuer said frequently during the past year that he was looking for an acquisition in France, where Deutsche Bank has no retail business.

(AFP, Bloomberg, Reuters)

Investor's Europe

	Frankfurt DAX	London FTSE 100 Index	Paris CAC 40
4500	5600	3200	3100
4300	5420	3000	2900
4100	5240	2800	2700
3900	5050	2600	2500
3700	4880	2400	2300
S O N D J F 1997	4700	2700	2600
S O N D J F 1998	3500	2500	2400
Exchange Index	Index	Index	Index
Monday Close	Close	Close	Close
Tuesday Open	Open	Open	Open
Austria A1EN	575.37	571.95	571.95
Brussels BEL 20	2,657.35	2,625.25	2,625.25
Frankfurt DAX	4,553.55	4,456.33	4,456.33
Copenhagen Stock Market	559.72	562.25	562.25
Helsinki HEX General	3,692.46	3,675.57	3,675.57
Oslo OBX	672.49	674.25	674.25
London FTSE 100	5,694.38	5,623.70	5,623.70
Madrid Stock Exchange	703.78	713.08	713.08
Milan MIBET	1,952.1	1,955.5	1,955.5
Paris CAC 40	3,220.94	3,216.65	3,216.65
Stockholm SX 18	3,488.86	3,478.86	3,478.86
Vienna ATX	1,351.79	1,343.34	1,343.34
Zurich SPL	4,244.20	4,239.18	4,239.18

International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

• The Bundesbank's president, Hans Tietmeyer, said the Group of 10 industrial nations were taking stock of the impact of financial problems in Asia but that overall the commercial-banking sector in Asian countries appeared to be sound. The G-10 comprises 11 countries: Belgium, Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States.

• Body Shop International PLC's head of U.S. operations, Steven Kanter, resigned less than two years after being recruited to help the retailer lift slowing U.S. sales. David Edward, chairman of the U.S. unit, will assume the titles of president and chief executive officer immediately.

• Mzi Khumalo resigned as chairman of Capital Alliance Holdings, a financial-services group. On Jan. 28, Mr. Khumalo resigned as chairman of JCI Ltd., the first black-owned South African mining house.

• Deutsche Bank shares fell 3.55 Deutsche marks on Monday, to close at 123.05 DM.

Mark Hoge, a banking analyst at Credit Suisse First Boston in London, said Deutsche Bank's comments on restructuring measures, job cuts and merger plans were inconsistent.

"At the moment, they don't seem to have a clear direction," he said. "You do not need to have a magic strategy — but if you don't, you've got to be consistent."

Mr. Breuer said frequently during the past year that he was looking for an acquisition in France, where Deutsche Bank has no retail business.

(AFP, Bloomberg, Reuters)

Strong Pound Pulls Down Earnings at BA

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

nomic downturn in Asia had not cut into profit.

"Overall, trading conditions are expected to remain favorable despite difficult conditions in the Far East and the political situation in the Gulf," Sir Colin Marshall, the carrier's chairman, said.

That outlook helped send the carrier's shares up 3 pence, to close at 524.

The airline also said it had high hopes of getting its alliance with American Airlines approved. The European Commission, which has been examining the proposal for two years, has said it expects to issue a

Chief Executive Robert Ayling

said: "As you know, I have taken a Trappist vow of silence but I remain hopeful. As long as we are making progress I am hopeful. It would appear that the regulatory authorities have seen that alliances will be the way the airline industry develops in the future, and I am pleased that there is generally a more positive atmosphere around."

While the Asian crisis had some effect on business, Mr. Ayling said, the overall impact was relatively small, as Southeast Asia accounted for only 6 percent of profit and sales last year. British Air's regional business was undermined by its equity-based alliance with Qantas Airways Ltd., he said. (Reuters, AFP)

Rebels at Astec Resist Emerson

Reuters

LONDON — Rebel directors and minority shareholders of Astec PLC won on the offensive Monday to keep the British electronics company's president, Emerson Electric Co., from taking complete control.

As Astec made public strong earnings, the finance director, Mike Arrowsmith, accused Emerson of using strong-arm tactics, while two institutional shareholders, Electra Fleming and Royal & Sun Alliance Insurance and Royal & Sun Alliance Insurance, said they would sue the U.S. company.

A spokesman for Emerson said it viewed its offer as "fair and reasonable." It wants to buy the 49 percent of Astec it does not own at 111 pence (\$1.83) a share.

Astec shares finished 2 pence higher Monday, at 126.

Pretax profit at Astec rose 10 percent in 1997, to £37.2 million. Sales, at £386.6 million, were up 12 percent in the second half to largely overcome a weak first half.

The Trib Index

	Paris	London	Sydney
Jan. 1, 1992 = 100	120.45	101.65	101.65
Level	181.65	-0.41	-0.23
Change	+2.16	+2.12	+5.54
% change	+2.12	+0.62	+5.99
year to date	+5.54	+0.88	+4.88
Asian/Pacific	104.27	-1.28	-1.28
Europe	208.54	-1.54	-0.88
N. America	226.54	-1.54	-0.88
S. America	143.47	+1.11	+0.78
Industrial Indexes	222.87	-0.88	+7.89
Capital goods	223.57	-0.41	+5.60
Consumer goods	190.56	-1.24	-0.65
Energy	134.44	+0.74	+9.94
Finance	152.90	+2.97	+1.98
Miscellaneous	174.00	-0.51	+2.01
Raw Materials	183.14	-0.51	+0.44
Service	183.14	-0.64	+0.57
Utilities	167.77	+0.27	+0.54

The International Herald Tribune World Stock Index tracks the U.S. dollar value of 250 internationally investable stocks from 25 countries. For more information, call 212-554-1444 or write to The Trib Index, 222 12th St., Suite 1000, New York, NY 10036. Compiled by Bloomberg News.

Gaultier, 22211 Healy/Cordis, France.

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NASDAQ

Monday's 4 P.M.
The 1,000 most traded National Market securities
in terms of dollar value, updated twice a year.
The Associated Press.

NYSE

Monday's 4 P.M. Close
(Continued)

12 Month High Low	Stock	Dv	Yld	Pt	PE	52 Wk	High	Low	Last	Chg
16% 14%	NMSel	.96	5.9	-	11	191	149%	169	162	—
16% 12%	NSTP	.50	5.0	-	11	156	141%	161	154	+1%
18 14	NSTP	.57	5.7	-	11	213	155%	154	154	-1%
15% 13%	NSTP	.83	5.5	-	11	177	154%	155	155	-1%
16% 14%	NTXCO	.94	5.7	-	11	114	141%	144	141%	+1%
49% 35%	OEIA	.33	1.2	16	5733	266%	254	264	+1%	
24 13%	OEC M	.26	2.6	264	547%	234%	241	241	—	
54% 40%	OGE Engy	2.46	5.1	14	403	525%	511	511	-5%	
12 6%	OGH Corp	.341	.9	21	2066	547%	111	112	+1%	
42% 25%	OM Grp	.341	.9	21	244	494%	358	404	+7%	
14% 7%	OMI	—	—	12	483	104%	104	104	—	
16% 9%	OMS Wind	—	—	12	268	31%	31	31	—	
32% 18%	OnExco	—	—	12	266	31%	31	31	—	
14% 8%	Oakley	—	—	12	266	31%	31	31	—	
38% 16%	Oakwood	.04	—	15	838	22%	221	216	+1%	
25% 21%	Oasidel	1.81	8.5	15	462	25%	255	254	-1%	
30% 21%	OcapCo	—	—	15	115	77%	75	74%	-2%	
107% 60%	Oceaneering	3.80	3.6	14	24	5207	454%	449	451	-1%
70% 45%	OceanCo	—	—	14	17	1443	17%	169	164	-5%
28% 14%	OceanDr	—	—	14	18	246	25%	254	254	-2%
25% 12%	OceanFabs	—	—	14	26	5477	24%	23	24	-1%
14% 11%	Oefco/Com	—	—	14	5291	15%	15	15	—	
28% 19%	Oeden	1.25	4.6	19	998	27%	254	274	+1%	
41% 24%	OefStep	.52	1.2	13	2605	41%	411	414	+3%	
51% 35%	Oehr	1.20	2.6	15	803	46%	42	42	—	
53 13%	Oehl Co	2.28	1.8	15	100	14%	15	15	+1%	
40% 30%	Omega/H&M	6.80	6.8	15	29	354%	356	359	+1%	
34% 22%	Omeara	.50	—	15	29	362	334	339	+1%	
44% 23%	Omeara	.50	—	15	32	133	124%	124	124	-1%
41% 26%	Omeara/B & S	.84	2.3	18	192	36%	364	364	+1%	
79% 54%	Omeara/B & S	1.05	4.5	19	312	27%	274	275	+1%	
40% 24%	Omeara/C	—	—	15	100	10%	10	10	—	
10% 5%	ONEOK	1.20	3.4	17	847	34%	351	354	+1%	
40% 24%	OppMats	.84	8.0	—	367	10%	10%	10%	—	
8% 7%	Opw/World	.67	8.4	—	137	8	7%	8	—	
49% 30%	OranRA	2.53	5.7	17	175	45%	45	45	—	
7% 3%	Orbit Enrgy	—	—	17	448	4%	42	42	+1%	
29% 15%	Orion	.56	2.7	21	111	30%	29	29	-1%	
31% 17%	OrionFin C	5.49	4.7	16	111	30%	30	30	+1%	
51 30%	OrionFin C	5.44	1.4	16	326	45%	45	45	-1%	
10% 11%	Orionfin	—	—	16	5149	257%	249	254	+1%	
30% 17%	Orionfin	—	—	16	177	15%	15	15	+1%	
10% 10%	Orionfin	—	—	16	174	26%	28	28	-1%	
26% 16%	Odors	.51	2.9	21	215	20%	204	204	+1%	
15% 10%	Odors	.51	2.9	21	176	28%	28	28	-1%	
35% 22%	Owens/	.19	1.2	21	93	38%	38	38	+1%	
45 27%	Owens/	.19	1.2	21	128	28	272	272	+1%	
45 27%	Owens/	.38	1.1	21	197	29%	29	29	—	
38% 23%	Oxford	—	—	21	117	19%	19	19	—	

Gold Exports

COMPUTERworld Magazine

Shipping at the Channel

Investors Seek Outsiders for SK Telecom

Reuters

SEOUL — Four foreign investment funds have called for SK Telecom Co. to appoint directors from outside the company, and analysts said Monday this could signal a turning point for shareholders' rights in South Korea.

The foreign funds — TEL Fund, Korea Fund, Oppenheimer Global Fund and Oppenheimer Variable Account Fund — hold a combined 9.85 percent stake in SK Telecom. They told the Securities Supervisory Board on Friday that they wanted to exercise their shareholders' rights in management.

SK Telecom declined to comment.

"SK Telecom's operations are good, but some of their business practices, such as favoring affiliates for contracts over perhaps a cheaper outside contractor, are questionable," said Lee Jeong Ja, head of research for HSBC James Capel.

But foreign fund managers will face an uphill battle at any shareholders' meeting; SK Group holds 21.85 percent of the company, and state-run Korea Telecom Corp. holds 18.99 percent, compared with foreign holdings totaling 33 percent.

"If they fail this time, they will try again next year when foreign ownership in telecommunications firms rises to 51 percent," Ms. Lee said, referring to the foreign funds.

Richard Samuelson, head of research for SBC Warburg Dillon Reed, called the foreign funds' move an "interesting development" but expressed doubt that it would start a trend.

Still, he said, "It does send a strong signal that if you're amongst those companies where foreigners are interested, you'll need to be mindful of their opinions going forward."

Compiled by Our Staff From Reuters

HONG KONG — China Telecom said Monday it had more than doubled its stake in Hong Kong Telecommunications Ltd. by buying the 7.8 percent stake held by China Everbright Holdings Co.

China Telecom (Hong Kong) Ltd. said it had paid 12.8 billion Hong Kong dollars (\$1.65 billion) to raise its stake in the company, which is 54.2 percent owned by Cable & Wireless PLC of Britain.

In June, China Telecom bought a 5.5 percent stake from Cable & Wireless.

Hong Kong Telecom is Hong Kong's dominant telecommunications provider, although it has agreed to give up its monopoly on international calls as of Jan. 1, 1999. China Telecom is an arm of China's Telecommunications Ministry.



Masao Nishimura, president of Industrial Bank.

Everbright Sells Its 7.8% of Phone Firm

China Everbright, which is 51 percent owned by the Chinese government, sold its stake at a 7.7 percent discount to the average closing price of Hong Kong Telecom shares over the past 30 days.

Hong Kong Telecom's shares rose 45 cents to close at 17.30 dollars amid speculation that China Telecom would bid for the whole company, but both companies said that was unlikely. Chen Zhaobin, deputy chairman of China Telecom, said the company would keep the stake as a long-term investment.

"It's a very good investment for us when you look at what's available in Asia," he said.

A spokesman for Hong Kong Telecom said the deal was "between two shareholders" and did not affect

Hong Kong Telecom directly. But the "stronger representation" of China Telecom would be good for Hong Kong Telecom, he said.

Jason Billings, an analyst at SBC Warburg, said that while the transfer of the stake did not have direct implications for Cable & Wireless's holding, it put more pressure on the British company's efforts to expand on the Chinese mainland.

He said SBC Warburg believed that Cable & Wireless was "having difficulty" in talks aimed at selling more of its Hong Kong Telecom stake in exchange for entry into the mainland market.

David Gibbons, an analyst at HSBC James Capel, said the main reason for the sale was probably China Everbright's need to free up

cash for acquisitions.

"It has held the stock for nine months and made a good profit," Mr. Gibbons said. "They would not want to hold it forever."

Jerry Wong, an analyst with Scapower Securities, said the deal would ease the pressure of interest expenses at China Everbright as well as generate a sound return on investment.

It also raises the prospect of China Everbright seeking fresh acquisition targets now that it is flush with cash, he said.

Mr. Wong also said that if mainland authorities continued to deny it access to China, Cable & Wireless could look at other options, including selling Hong Kong Telecom shares to a company such as Singapore Telecommunications Ltd.

(Reuters, AFP)

Wining-and-Dining Inquiry

Bank of Japan and a Commercial Bank Are Targets

Agence France-Presse

TOKYO — The stain of corruption in Japan's finance sector spread Monday as the Bank of Japan battled bribery accusations and prosecutors moved on a commercial bank.

The string of scandals, stretching from corporate gangster payoffs by all the top brokerage houses to bribery at the Finance Ministry, has led into the corridors of the central bank and Industrial Bank of Japan Ltd.

The Bank of Japan announced an internal investigation after reports that commercial banks had entertained two of its officials at a cost of \$160,000.

On the same day, prosecutors arrested a former director of Industrial Bank of Japan for alleged involvement in a separate and widening bribery case involving the state-owned Japan Highway Public Corp.

Takayuki Kamoshida, a Bank of Japan ex-

ecutive director, said the bank would interview its officials about meetings with commercial banks.

Yasuo Matsushita, the governor of the Bank of Japan, also will voluntarily report any entertainment he has received from commercial banks in the past five years, Mr. Kamoshida said.

The national daily Mainichi Shimbun said Sunday that Tokyo prosecutors had asked commercial banks to report any wining and dining of two central bank officials.

The paper quoted anonymous sources as saying two Bank of Japan officials were suspected of each receiving 10 million yen (\$80,600) in benefits, such as restaurant meals and golf games, over a period of two to three years from 1993.

Mr. Kamoshida said the central bank would interview 600 senior officials and ask them to "voluntarily report" any entertainment received from commercial banks.

"If any conduct, as reported by news papers, is discovered, we will take appropriate action," Mr. Kamoshida said.

Disciplinary action would range from a warning to a dismissal, but the bank did not plan to set any guidelines as to how much entertainment its officials would be allowed to receive from commercial banks.

In the separate case involving Industrial Bank of Japan, Kozo Umezawa, 57, was arrested for allegedly giving bribes in the form of lavish entertainment to Takehiko Isaka, accounting director of Japan Highway Public.

The bribes were allegedly extended to ensure Industrial Bank of Japan would be picked as underwriter for a foreign-bond issue by the government corporation.

Investor's Asia

Hong Kong Hang Seng	Singapore Strata Times	Tokyo Nikkei 225
17000 ...	2000 ...	20000 ...
15000 ...	1750 ...	18500 ...
13000 ...	1500 ...	17000 ...
11000 ...	1250 ...	15500 ...
9000 ...	1000 ...	14000 ...
S O N D J F 1997	S O N D J F 1997	S O N D J F 1997
1543.72	1536.91	1597
Exchange Index	Monday Close	% Change
Hong Kong Hang Seng	10,873.15	+3.89
Singapore Strata Times	1,443.72	+0.44
Sydney All Ordinaries	2,685.30	+2.10
Tokyo Nikkei 225	17,205.00	+0.06
Kuala Lumpur Composite	727.40	-0.11
Bangkok SET	530.50	-1.02
Seoul Composite Index	554.24	+2.55
Taipei Stock Market Index	8,534.61	+1.06
Manila PSE	2,050.69	+0.88
Jakarta Composite Index	5,29,254	-1.15
Wellington NZSE-40	2,257.97	+0.68
Bombay Sensitive Index	3,348.35	-0.55

Source: Telekurs

International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

- Foster's Brewing Group Ltd.'s first-half profit fell 1 percent, less than many analysts expected, to 167.8 million Australian dollars (\$112.9 million), as gains in its beer and wine divisions offset a rising tax bill. Sales rose 15 percent, to 1.58 billion dollars.

- Sharp Corp. of Japan doubled prices on its home appliances in Indonesia to offset the depreciation of the local currency, the rupiah, which has lost about three-quarters of its value since August. Sharp said it had also recently raised prices in the Philippines, Malaysia and Thailand.

- Canon Inc.'s current, or pretax, profit rose 17 percent last year, to 146.8 billion yen (\$1.18 billion), amid brisk copier sales. The maker of office equipment and cameras said sales rose 10 percent, to 1.535 trillion yen, and net profit rose 46 percent, to 86.2 billion yen. Figures are for the parent company; group results are to be released next week.

- Hitachi Ltd. of Japan and Northern Telecom Ltd. of Canada agreed to jointly develop optical communication modules, which serve as the backbone of computer networks, to try to meet surging demand in the market for equipment that provides access to the Internet, interactive cable-TV, video on demand and other emerging technologies.

- Salomon Smith Barney Inc., a unit of Travelers Group Inc., purchased one of Australia's leading brokerage houses, County NatWest Markets, for 130 million Australian dollars from National Westminster Bank PLC of Britain, which has been selling off brokerage and investment-banking units.

- San Miguel Corp.'s net profit fell 51 percent last year, to 2.96 billion Philippine pesos (\$72.9 million), as the brewer's foreign operations were hit by Asia's financial crisis; sales rose 8 percent, to 67.1 billion pesos, while operating expenses increased 12 percent, to 63.5 billion pesos.

- Isuzu Motors Ltd., an affiliate of General Motors Corp., plans to develop a generation of small pickup trucks for the American company. The Japanese company said the trucks would be produced in the United States, South America and Southeast Asia.

Bloomberg, AFP, Reuters

Seoul's Gold Exports Soar as Koreans Answer Appeal

Agence France-Presse

SEOUL — The government's campaign to collect gold has turned the precious metal into South Korea's second-largest export item, according to data released Monday by the Korea International Trade Association.

The group said the country exported \$696 million of gold in January, a surge of 54.3 percent from a year earlier.

: Gold exports made up 16.1 percent of the country's total exports of \$4.33 billion in the first month of the year, the agency said. Electronic goods remained the leading export, the trade association said, accounting for \$1.85

billion, or nearly 43 percent of the total, in the month.

The agency said Daewoo Corp., which was the first South Korean company to take part in the gold-collection campaign, had seen the largest jump, tripling its gold exports from a year earlier to \$520 million in January.

South Korea was largely an importer of gold before the campaign — which asks South Koreans to donate gold items to raise funds to help the country out of its economic crisis — was started in January.

Since then, long lines of people have formed outside banks and other collection points as

citizens have turned in items including wedding rings, lucky charms and sports trophies.

The trinkets, trophies and rings are melted down into ingots and sold for dollars, which are sent to the Bank of Korea.

In January, South Korea collected 165 metric tons of gold valued at about \$2 billion dollars from 2.43 million people, local news papers reported.

Dealers in Hong Kong said private gold holdings in South Korea were believed to exceed 2,700 tons. The Yonhap news agency said the holdings had a value of \$27 billion to \$30 billion.

COMPUTER: One Man's Battle for the World's Fastest Machine

Continued from Page 13

Walt Disney Co. "Burton is the last independent supercomputer designer."

: Supercomputers, defined as the fastest computers available at any given time, were first used for designing nuclear weapons and predicting weather but have increasingly been used in applications ranging from designing drugs to simulating car crashes. But with the end of the Cold War and the decline of government financing for supercomputing and the simultaneous surge in the power of desktop computing, innovations increasingly come first from the PC and consumer electronics worlds.

That has led to a decline in research into new computer designs. The number of companies trying to build the most powerful 64-bit processors needed to drive the next generation of computing has dwindled to a handful.

With the death of Mr. Cray in 1996, many computer designers felt that the final chapter had been written for an industry that only a decade before was widely seen as crucial to the nation's technological survival.

But the people making those predictions did not reckon with Mr. Smith.

"I'm feeling very good about where we are now in spite of the fact that most people in the computer business think we're out of our minds," he said.

Still, despite his optimism, there are people in the computer industry who are deeply skeptical about Tera's chances of survival in a computer world that is increasingly homogeneous and dominated by a handful of multinational giants.

The supercomputer industry has been transformed in the last five years," said Larry Smarr, director of the National Center for Supercomputer Applications in Urbana-Champaign, Illinois. "Only market-driven companies with a strong desktop business are going to be able to survive."

Most executives in the computer industry think that almost all of the fastest computing systems in the first decade of the next century will be based on the 64-bit Merced microprocessor chip being designed by Intel and Hewlett-Packard Co.

But there is a significant market for high-performance computing both in the technical marketplace and for scientific and corporate research. Industries from airplane manufacturing to banking could use ultrafast commercial computers for applications like reservation systems and credit card processing.

International Data Corp. estimates that the market for technical high-performance systems reached \$3.57 billion in 1997, while the Gartner Group is predicting that the total market for high-performance computers will reach \$3

billion this year. Most of those systems will be sold by Silicon Graphics, IBM and Sun Microsystems.

Compared with the sales of these giants, Tera's will be tiny this year. Salomon Brothers Inc. estimates that the company will have \$49 million in revenue in 1998, rising to \$106 million in 1999. It predicts that the company will be profitable this year.

If it is Mr. Smith's ability to balance hardware and software that has most impressed many of the leaders in the supercomputing world. Last year, a single processor version of the Tera machine set a world speed record for sorting integer numbers.

The design is based in large part on Mr. Smith's rejection of the idea that any computing problem can be solved best by simply assembling ever-larger numbers of microprocessor chips. Mr. Smith's system is intended to work in a fashion similar to a secretarial pool. As soon as a processor finishes a task it picks up a new one from a large pool of waiting tasks, ensuring that all of the processors are efficiently used.

Mr. Smith thinks Tera will win commercial orders this year from companies like airplane and automobile manufacturers that run huge simulation programs for each new model. He hopes for other sales to government intelligence agencies and research laboratories.

WON: Snipping at the Chaebol

Continued from Page 13

to work out and implement group-wide restructuring plans as required by the next government."

The emergency economic committee, which includes members of the current administration of President Kim Young Sam along with key economic advisers to President-elect Kim Dae Jung, made plain its view that the coordination and planning offices were vehicles for maintaining the control of chaebol owners and top executives over a group regardless of the wishes of stockholders.

"The most important element is the rights of small shareholders," said You Jong Kuen, a top economic adviser to Kim Dae Jung. "We're going to allow small shareholders to file class-action suits."

One basis for such suits, according to members of the committee, is that the attack on the coordination and planning offices was a key part of the effort at reforming the chaebol company to serve on a coordination and planning office that has nothing to do with the company's own interests.

Coordination and planning

offices for the chaebol generally are located in a company with closest ties to the group's chairman and major owner.

<p

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available on Internet: <http://www.iht.com/IHT>

February 9, 1998
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Nature in its
This is the original Re
like hewn rock. The inside
we have kept full of
Swiss herbs to give you



Nature in its truest form.

This is the original Ricola Swiss Herb Candy – its shape and ingredients have remained unchanged for 40 years. The outside is rough and edged like hewn rock. The inside deliciously mild and pleasant. Right from the beginning we have kept following the same traditional recipe with its blend of 13 precious Swiss herbs to give you and your throat the soothing pleasures of Ricola.



Herald Tribune INTERNATIONAL SPORTS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1998

WORLD ROUNDUP

West Indies Wins

CRICKET Carl Hooper hit 94 not out Monday as the West Indies beat England by three wickets in the first test in Trinidad. Hooper scored the winning boundary as West Indies reached its target of 282 shortly after lunch on the final day. Hooper and David Williams, who scored his test best of 65, shared a stand of 129 after their team had slumped to 124 for five wickets. (Reuters)

Graf Postpones Return

TELEVISION Steffi Graf, the former World No. 1, has again postponed her comeback and will not play at this week's Paris Open, the German news agency SID reported Monday. The agency quoted officials in Paris who said Graf would not be able to play because of problems with her injured knee. (Reuters)

Simpson Wins Playoff

GOLF Scott Simpson came from eight strokes back in the final round, then birdied the first hole of a playoff against Skip Kendall to win the rain-shortened Buick Invitational in San Diego on Sunday. Simpson earned \$378,000 as he won his first title since 1993. He closed with an 8-under 64 to match Kendall (70) at 12-under 204 for three rounds. Tiger Woods, Davis Love III and Kevin Sutherland tied for third at 205. (AP)



Scott Simpson chipping onto the green during the playoff.

Congo and Guinea Win in African Cup

Brazil Crushes El Salvador in Gold Cup

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

OUAGADOUGOU, Burkina Faso — Congo beat Togo, 2-1, Monday in Group B of the African Nations Cup thanks to two penalties.

The Congolese took the lead through a disputed 57th minute penalty converted by striker Tondelou Mbanya. He also scored from a second spot kick in the 73rd minute after Yaoi Abalo brought down Kasongo Banza.

The young and inexperienced To-

ndre Carlos, Real Madrid's Brazilian left back, fell when challenged by Ramis. Ramis was sent off for protesting. His teammate Djakminha, another Brazilian, shouted abuse at the referee after the final whistle.

FRANCE Bourg-Pernos, an amateur team from central France, beat Montpellier of the first division, 3-2, in the second round of the French Cup on Sunday. Montpellier became the sixth first-division club to fall over the weekend.

In one of two clashes between first-division teams Sunday, Metz beat Bastia, 1-0, when Bruno Rodriguez, a former Bastia striker, headed the only goal of the match in the dying seconds. Two Bastia players, Frank Juretti and Prince, were ejected, and a fight erupted after the final whistle.

MONACO beat Bordeaux, 1-0, thanks to a header by French international David Trezeguet in the 34th minute.

NORTHERN IRELAND Lawrie McMenemy was named Northern Ireland's manager Monday. McMenemy will have former Scottish international striker Joe Jordan as his assistant and former Northern Ireland keeper Pat Jennings as goalkeeping coach.

Guinea, which began the game with an entire team of foreign-based players, went level on points at the top of group A with Cameroon, which beat host Burkina Faso 1-0 on Saturday.

gold cup Brazil qualified for the semifinals of the Concacaf Gold Cup when it beat El Salvador, 4-0, in Los Angeles on Sunday night.

Brazil will play either the United States or Mexico next depending on the result of Jamaica's match against El Salvador on Monday.

The match was the second part of a doubleheader. Paul Hall scored twice as Jamaica beat Guatemala, 3-2, in the opener.

Brazil, which had scored just one goal — on a penalty kick — in its first two Gold Cup matches, overwhelmed El Salvador with superior speed and touch and scored two early goals.

SPAIN Real Madrid missed a chance to go to the top of the Spanish first division Sunday when the Brazilian Savio Bortolini blasted a controversial injury-time penalty high and wide in the 2-2 draw at Deportivo Coruna.

Real twice trailed but fought back to equalize 12 minutes from the end. The draw keeps it a point behind Barcelona, which drew, 1-1, in Tenerife.

The 24-year-old Serb was fined £15,000 (\$24,750) and placed on the transfer list last month after he spat toward Villa fans when they berated him for missing a chance against Blackburn.

Real twice trailed but fought back to equalize 12 minutes from the end. The draw keeps it a point behind Barcelona,

which drew, 1-1, in Tenerife.

The Daily Express quoted Brian Little, the Villa manager as saying:

"I had intended to use him as one of the substitutes, but when I called him into my office and told him, he said he was not interested and did not want to appear for this club again."

The 24-year-old Serb was fined £15,000 (\$24,750) and placed on the transfer list last month after he spat toward Villa fans when they berated him for missing a chance against Blackburn.

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1998

SPORTS

The Master vs. the Teenager**Bryant Adds Flash, but Jordan Steers East to All-Star Victory**By Selena Roberts
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — A brush with the flu left Michael Jordan's body a bit achy and numb. And yet, he could still feel the significance of the moment playing out beneath the pinwheel ceiling of Madison Square Garden.

So Jordan was absorbing everything, storing it all in a mental hope chest of sorts, because he was all but certain that the 43rd annual National Basketball Association All-Star Game on Sunday night was his last. It is not the type of event he will miss if he goes, but the camaraderie and competition.

So he will miss nights like this. Beneath the commercial stuff of this game, there was a basketball court and a challenge. There was the daring teenage pimp, Kobe Bryant, who was staring into Jordan's watery eyes. And the 19-year-old kid, the youngest player to start in an All-Star Game, was on the attack.

It was the perfect remedy for Jordan. He watched Bryant's helicopter dunks and playground moves add up to 18 points. But in the end, Jordan had 23 points, a 135-114 victory for the East All-Stars and his third most valuable player trophy.

"He came at me pretty early," Jordan said of Bryant. "I would if I was him. If I see someone that's maybe sick or whatever, you've got to attack him. He attacked. You know, I liked his attitude."

Jordan saw a little of himself in the player so often picked to slip into his place after he retires. And Jordan had to admit it was a fun matchup. So how could he be serious about leaving all this, about walking away with the league's youngsters nipping at his heels?

"I'm very serious about it, actually," Jordan said. "If I can't continue to have fun, then it's not worth playing. If you can't have fun out there with an environment that feels comfortable to you, what's the purpose of playing?"

"How many times do you want me to say it," Jordan continued. "If Phil Jackson is not in Chicago, I'm not playing. I'll say it once more."

Jordan was loud and clear about his intention to retire if Jackson, the Bulls' coach, was not back next season. And yet, there is a sense of denial about his retirement: few people believe he will leave, especially when he is still the best at what he does. Jordan does not leap from the free-throw line to dunk anymore. He is a complete player now, but it was a process.

"Kobe is going to go through the same thing," Jordan said of the second-year Laker. "When you come to these games, it's O.K. to have the creative game, but with good, solid basketball, you'll be able to play with anyone."

Bryant is more flash than fundamentals at this stage, making him the perfect All-Star Game participant. But more than that, Bryant seems to have that certain something that makes him Jordan-like. Maybe it is the telegraphic quality of Bryant, a player who makes teenage girls squeal and high school boys grow their hair high like his.

Bryant is not a starter for the Lakers, yet he was voted to start for the West. It took Bryant to bring what was a somewhat docile crowd of corporate types and celebrities to their feet as he did a 360-degree dunk on a fast break in the first half of a game in which ordinary jumpers brought yawns. Unless, of course, that jumper came from Jordan. He scored the first points of the game, then took Bryant's dunk and raised him a

but it seemed as if Jordan's one-on-one with Bryant overshadowed everything else.

"I think there was a little too much of that stuff," said David Robinson, the San Antonio center. "It's hard. Some of us midgeneration guys, we're all about trying to win the game and aren't into that one-on-one kind of deal."

But this was an All-Star Game, where it's all about style. So what's a gritty rebounder like the Nets' Jayson Williams to do?

"Just have fun," Williams said. "I'm just in awe. I was getting on the bus with the guys today and thought, I ain't never been this close to \$1 billion in cargo."

There was concern that Jordan would be a no-show. On Thursday, Jordan dropped a golf game in Las Vegas, Nevada, because he started feeling ill. By Saturday, he had a fever of 101 degrees Fahrenheit (38.5 centigrade) and was listed as questionable for the game.

"If it had been yesterday," he said, "I wouldn't have been able to play. I spent the whole day in bed yesterday so I could get up and play."

By being out, he avoided being peppered by questions until Sunday night: Why would he quit now? Why can't he be a Knick? Although Jordan was sitting in the locker usually reserved for Patrick Ewing, he was sure he was never going to be a permanent fixture in the Knicks' locker room. But wait, didn't he say he would consider being a Knick?

"The only thing I ever said was, 'If I was single,'" Jordan said. "And I'm not single, so —"

So this was it, apparently. Three All-Star Game MVP's and out.

"People don't want to see it," Jordan said. "Or people just don't want it to happen. This day was going to happen sooner or later."

If anyone believed Jordan, they were doing as he was on Sunday night: soaking in every sight and emotion of his last All-Star Game.

Players from the East and West seemed to sense this. After he received the MVP trophy, the All-Stars greeted Jordan as he left the floor. Some hugged him; others patted him on the head.

"Everyone respects him," Anfernee Hardaway said. "I think this was it for him. This was his last one. Everyone will remember this."

dunk and a couple of fall-away jumpers. "He hit those two turnarounds," Bryant said. "And I was like, 'Cool, let's get it on.'"

And it was on. Everyone on the court seemed to clear the way for Jordan to face the future of the league in Bryant.

"I kind of looked over at Jordan and he had this look in his eye," Reggie Miller said. "He was like, 'You're right, we are trying to play this as Kobe going after Michael.' We all took that personal."

The East, which outshot the West, 52 percent to 40 percent, had all the bravado.

But Bryant, who hit 7 of 16 shots in 22 minutes, might have had a chance to push Jordan for the MVP award if the West's coach, George Karl, had not seated him for the fourth quarter.

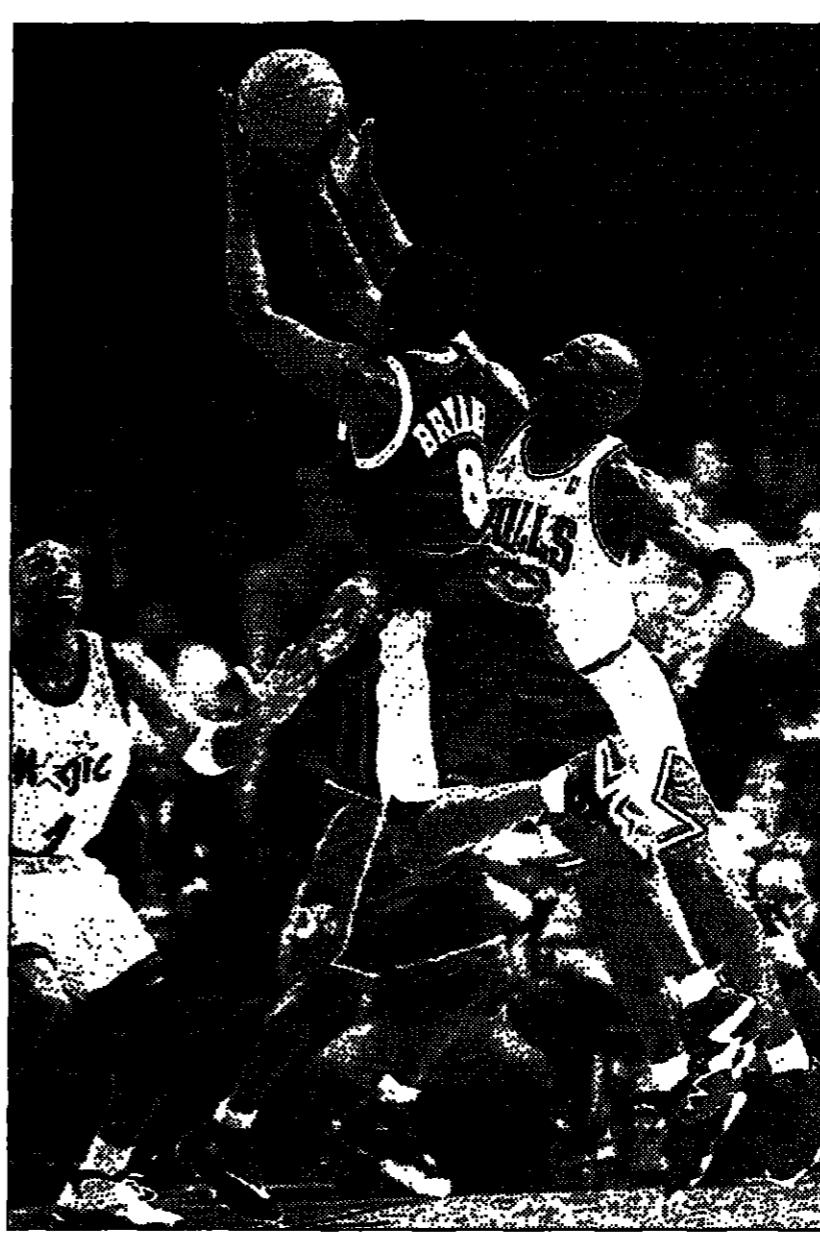
Karl is an alumnus of North Carolina. Jordan is, too. So conspiracy theories were brewing.

"I think I'd better stay away from that one," Karl said. "Best for me not to answer that. Really, it doesn't make a lot of sense. Michael is Michael."

It is not as if there were no other stars,



Kobe Bryant, left, the youngest All-Star, joking with Jazz's Karl Malone.



Michael Jordan, right, challenging the Lakers' Kobe Bryant for the ball.

Tension Rising in NBA In Clash of Egos and PayBy William C. Rhoden
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Not far beneath the youthful glitz of the All-Star Game Weekend, war is brewing. The partnership with which the National Basketball Association pulled itself out of ashes in the early 1980s is deteriorating into an ego-tinted power struggle.

Even Michael Jordan, the symbol of what the game has become, is not immune. If young players were unclear about the owners' determination to reel behavior and salaries closer to shore, they have to look only at Chicago's take-it-or-leave-it attitude toward Jordan's threat to quit.

"I don't think that this has gotten to the point where there's animosity," Dave Checketts, president of Madison Square Garden, said before the All-Star Game on Sunday night. "But there is real concern on everybody's part about what we're doing to our business. About the delicate balance between being a business and being something that's so public, the creation of heroes, love of the game, adoration of fans."

"That balance, between the amount of money changing hands and a perceived lack of good behavior — on everybody's part — has the ability to hurt what we're trying to do," he added.

The coaches, with the owners' blessings, used this game to send messages. Rod Strickland, the assists leader,

was missing. Dennis Rodman, the league's best rebounder and defender, was missing. Allen Iverson, the Sixers' flashy second-year star, was missing.

There are no signs that the majority of players understand that the owners are taking collective aim at their wallets. And the players, caught up in the day-to-day grind, aren't collectively focused on a possible lockout after the season.

"I don't think there's enough unity," said Anfernee Hardaway, the Orlando guard. "Only a handful of guys are making over \$10 million who really don't have to be involved. Then you have the guys who are making the minimum who have to really go with what the league says if they want to get their money."

According to both the league and the players' association, an unprecedented number of players are making the NBA minimum salary, under \$300,000. Fewer players can afford a lockout.

"I don't think there'll be a strike because they just signed a \$3 billion TV contract. Somebody's got to play," said Jayson Williams of the New Jersey Nets. Informed that under the terms of that contract, the NBA will receive television revenue in the event of a strike, Williams said. "Then the NBA needs to be applauded."

So what about the partnership?

"In bad times you tend to circle the wagons together," the NBA commissioner, David Stern, said. "When times are very good, there are splits."

Carolina Gets Tough Victory and Goes to No. 1

The Associated Press

North Carolina needed two overtimes to become the No. 1-ranked team in college basketball.

The Tar Heels took over the top spot after beating Georgia Tech, 107-100, Sunday in double overtime behind Shammond Williams's career-high 42 points.

North Carolina, ranked No. 2 last week, routed then-No. 1 Duke by 24

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

points Thursday. But the Tar Heels had a tough time in Atlanta against unranked Georgia Tech, which almost won at the end of the first overtime with a tip-in by Michael Maddox that came just after the buzzer sounded.

"We were lucky to escape that first overtime," said North Carolina's coach, Bill Guthridge.

"Mahkrt Ndiaye gave our team a real good pep talk going into the second overtime. I think we played a lot better and were really into it," he said, referring to North Carolina's outstanding senior.

Williams scored 12 points in the second overtime for the Tar Heels (24-1, 10-1 Atlantic Coast Conference), who vaulted to No. 1 in The Associated Press poll Monday. He made 8 of 11 shots from 3-point range and was 12-of-12 from the foul line.

"Williams was absolutely sensational," Tech's coach, Bobby Cremins, said, adding that he thought his team played well defensively.

Maddox scored a career-high 32 points for Tech (14-9, 3-7), which overcame a seven-point deficit in the final 1:21 of regulation and forced the first overtime when Maddox made a 3-pointer with 15.9 seconds remaining.

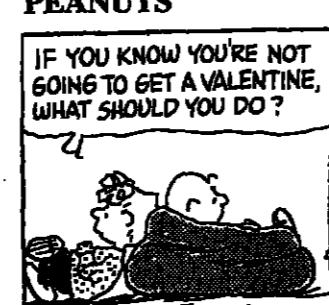
No. 2 Duke 65, North Carolina State 49 Duke rebounded from its loss to North Carolina by beating North Carolina State with a career-high 27 points from Roshawn McLeod. The Blue Devils (21-2, 10-1 ACC) beat the Wolfpack (12-10, 3-8) for the sixth time in their last seven meetings in Raleigh, North Carolina. C.C. Harrison led the Wolfpack with 18.

No. 4 Kansas 80, Missouri 70 In Lawrence, Kansas, Paul Pierce scored 29 points and Raef LaFrentz added 22 as Kansas extended its home winning streak to 58 games. Missouri, which upset Kansas 74-73, in Columbia on Jan. 19, lost for the 20th straight time on the road. Kelly Thunes scored 17 points for Missouri (13-10, 5-5).

No. 7 Kentucky 79, Villanova 63 Jeff Sheppard and Nazr Mohammed each scored 18 points and Heshim Evans had 17 as Kentucky beat Villanova in Philadelphia. Mohammed also had 11 rebounds and five steals for Kentucky (21-3), which has won 11 of its last 12 games. Howard Brown and Jerome Medley each had 15 points for Villanova (9-12).

No. 20 Massachusetts 72, Xavier 62 In Cincinnati, Charlton Clarke scored 18 points and Massachusetts built an 18-point lead before holding on to defeat Xavier. Massachusetts (17-6, 9-1 Atlantic 10) improved to 5-0 in road conference games. Gary Lumpkin scored 19 points for Xavier (15-6, 7-4), which lost for the first time this season at Cincinnati Gardens, where it had won 16 in a row.

DENNIS THE MENACE



PEANUTS

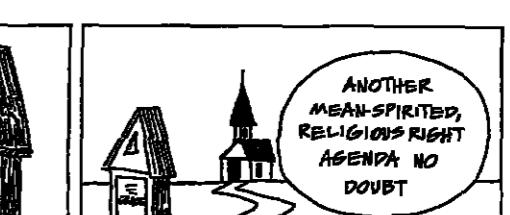


CALVIN AND HOBBES



WIZARD OF ID

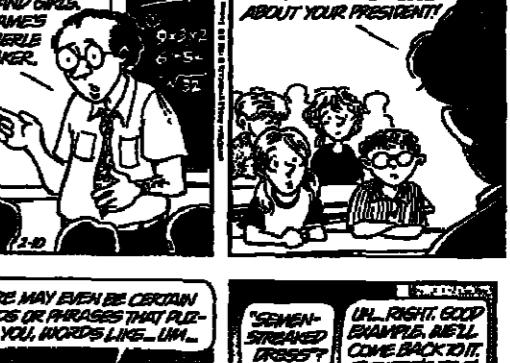
CARTOON



PARKER



DOONESBURY



TRANSITION



TRANSITION

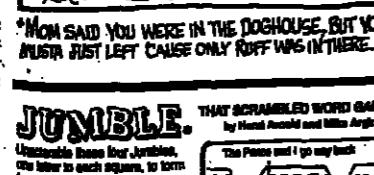
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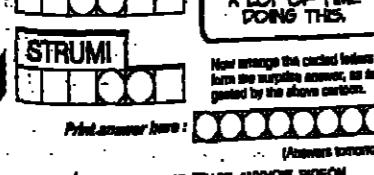
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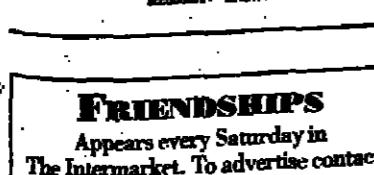
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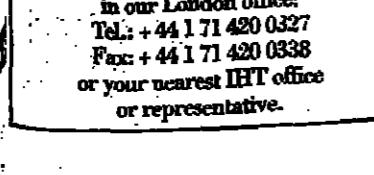
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WINTER OLYMPICS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1998

OLYMPIC ROUNDUP

Banned Bobsledder Asks if He Can Stay

BOBBLED Michael Dionne, an American bobsledder who failed a test for a banned stimulant, asked a sports arbitration panel Monday to allow him to stay in the Olympics, even though he cannot compete.

Michael Dionne, a pusher of the No. U.S. four-man sled, went before the International Court for Arbitration in Sports to appeal his three-month ban for ephedrine.

The urine sample was collected at a World Cup meet in Calgary in November. Dionne's three-month suspension is retroactive to the date of the test, so he will be eligible to compete Feb. 22, the last day of the Games. He told the panel that he had inadvertently taken the drug as part of a cold medicine and asked that his suspension be wiped out.

Dionne had been granted a stay of execution, which allowed him to march in the opening ceremony Saturday. He will not be able to compete even if the suspension is overturned, because he has been replaced in the sled and the deadline for roster changes has passed. (AP)



Toturo Kobayashi, 8, watching the speed skating on Monday wearing a Viking hat decorated with a Norwegian flag.

Chinese Player Hurt

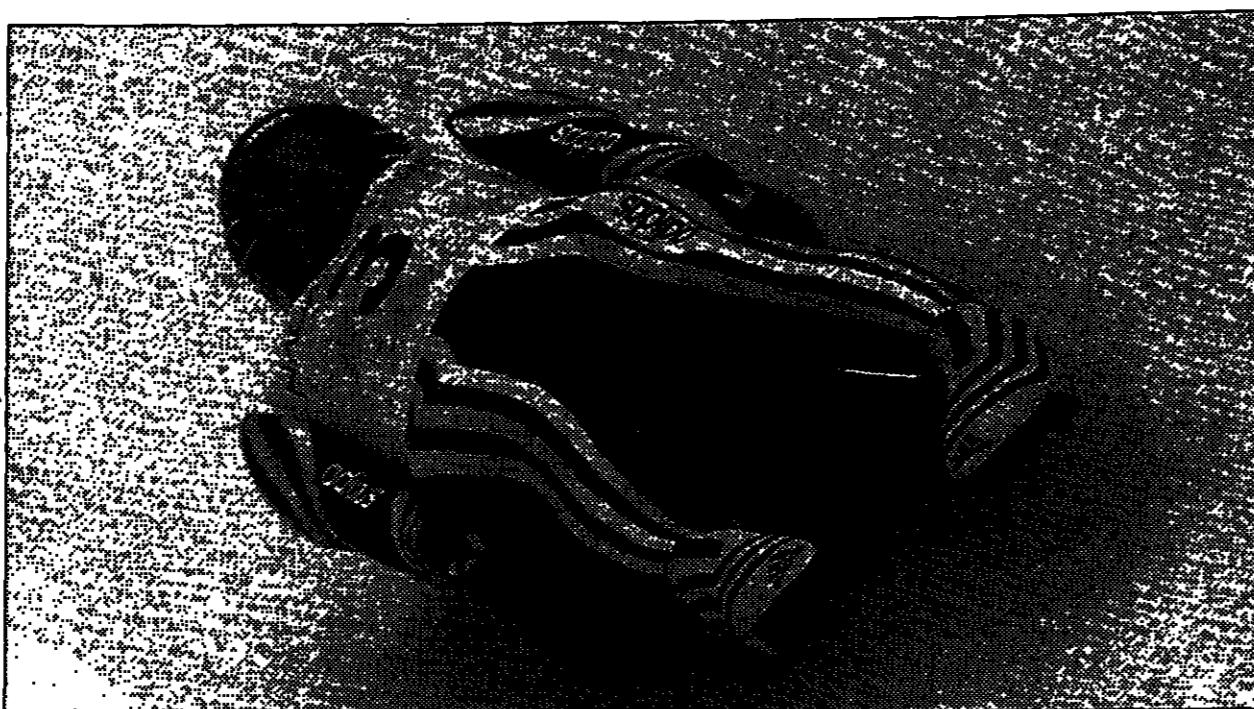
ICE HOCKEY Gong Ming, a Chinese defenseman, slid into the boards behind her goalie and had to be carried from the ice on a stretcher in the third period of the game between China and Canada.

The 5-foot-7, 150-pound Gong was chasing down a loose puck and lost her footing.

The nature of her injury wasn't immediately known, but she appeared to hit the boards first with her hip, then her shoulder before rolling onto her face. (Reuters)

The Big Question...

CURLING "You know the question is going to come up, so you prepare yourself for it — pretty much for the rest of your life," Stacey Lippis, a member of the U.S. women's Olympic curling team, on being asked repeatedly, "Just what is this sport?" (LAT)



Georg Hackl making his third run in the huge competition Monday in Nagano. He again emerged victorious.

Cheerful Bavarian Claims 3d Gold**Hackl Extends Olympic Luge Streak With New Boots and Faster Sled**

By Christopher Clarey
New York Times Service

NAGANO, Japan — To the untrained eye, luge resembles a lottery on ice with its very high speeds and nearly identical times. But how often does anyone win the lottery three times in a row?

Georg Hackl may indeed be a fortunate man, but the third consecutive Olympic gold medal he won Monday in men's luge was no coincidence.

"He is the strongest person in the head that I have ever met," said his coach, Thomas Schwab.

"He's always smiling," said Adam Heidt, an American luger who finished ninth. "Luge is kind of like a poker game. You can't let anyone else know what you've got, and he's great at that."

What Hackl has is a superior temperament and superior equipment, and that is not merely a reference to his colorful, controversial new booties. A trained metalworker from Bavaria, Hackl built his first sled at the age of 16, and at the age of 31 he apparently builds and drives them better than ever.

Hackl's postoperative back has hurt his start times. The course that supposedly favored heavier sliders, Markus Tischbirek, the Austrian who finished just 4 handclap behind Hackl in the last two Olympics, produced a Herculean but ultimately Sisyphian effort. In spite of all of this, Hackl's performance on Nagano's Spiral track was the most dominant of his Olympic career.

Over the course of the two-day competition, the Germans became the first Olympic champion to record the fastest time in each of the four runs, and his combined time of 3 minutes 18.436 seconds put him 503 one-hundredths of a second ahead of the silver medalist.

Armin Zoeggeler of Italy; 657 one-hundredths of a second ahead of the bronze medalist and fellow German, Jens Mueller, and 1.22 seconds ahead of Prock, who added a disheartening final paragraph to his litany of Olympic woe by bumping a wall on his final run and finishing fourth.

"I took 150 percent risk, and I made a big mistake," said a despondent Prock, who took the silver behind Hackl in 1992 and, more maddeningly, 1994, when he lost by slightly more than one-hundredth of a second.

Though Prock's error cost him a medal, it did not cost him the gold. Hackl had already put that out of reach in the first three runs, and when he crossed the finish line after his final run and thrust his right arm triumphantly overhead, he had become the first luger and sixth person to win a Winter Olympic event three consecutive times. The others were the figure skaters Gillis Grafstrom, Sonja Henie and Irina Rodnina; the nordic combined skier Ulrich Wehling and the American speedskater Bonnie Blair, who won the women's 500 in 1988, 1992 and 1994.

"It is an awesome feeling," said Hackl, who will continue sliding next season but essentially ruled out another Olympics in 2002. "I think the greatest victory for me was in 1994 because it was so close. It was my very best performance for driving because I think that I was at a slight disadvantage with my sled."

A slight disadvantage can make a large difference in luge, and this time Hackl took no chances. He designed new metal spikes to improve his starts, which have become a weakness since he underwent disc surgery on his back in October 1996. He tinkered with his sled and developed better runners.

He and Mueller, who won the gold in 1988 for East Germany, also showed up on the opening day of competition wearing new and presumably improved racing boots, which quickly drew an official protest from the American coach, Wolfgang Schadler, who claimed the boots were against regulations because they were not available to all the teams.

The race jury quickly rejected the protest.

"Hackl could drive a luge with these shoes," said Karl Rief, the Austrian coach, pointing to his hiking boots and grinning. "The difference was in the sled. You could hear it when he went by. I think the runners were smaller than other people's runners. He is a clever man."

And a fulfilled man. In the finish area, Hackl called his companion, Margit, on a cellular phone and shared his delight.

"She didn't propose," he cracked.

On the victory stand, he grabbed a German flag and waved it as Mueller and the Zoeggeler hoisted him on their shoulders, and before an official car whisked him down the valley for the official medal ceremony, Hackl made a detour by the beer tent for a quick Stein of his region's favorite thirst-quencher.

"I am no citizen of the world; I'm Bavarian," Hackl said.

An American Love Story

Wendel Suckow was the top American, finishing sixth in his final race before retirement. But, unlike Hackl, he got engaged. The Associated Press reported.

After the race Suckow proposed to Kim Fluhmann and gave her a diamond ring. She said yes.

Suckow kept the diamond ring in his backpack in the athlete's waiting room during his two runs on Monday.

Russian, 17, Knows What He Has to Do to Triumph

By Jere Longman
New York Times Service

NAGANO, Japan — Before leaving Russia, the 17-year-old coach gave the 17-year-old student a lesson about figure skating's solar system. The European championships are on one planet, Alexei Mishin told Alexei Yagudin, and the Winter Olympics are on another planet.

The pressure will be immense, the coach told the skater. You must stay here, you must ride the bus there. The

FIGURE SKATING

old man seemed more nervous than the teenager. Finally, the teenager had enough.

"Shut up," Yagudin told Mishin. "I know what I have to do."

At 17, Yagudin has improbably become the European champion and an Olympic gold medal candidate with soaring jumps and towering confidence. Monday, three days before the men's short program, he landed an effortless quadruple-toe, triple toe combination. He will attempt it again in Saturday's long program. In the spring, Yagudin plans to try a quadruple axel. He is young enough that everything seems possible and immediate.

"I am not nervous," Yagudin said with the assuredness of a man and the complexion of a teenager. "It's the same as any other competition."

Until he won a bronze medal at the 1997 world championships, few had expected him to qualify for these Winter Games. His training partner in St. Petersburg, is the defending Olympic champion, Alexei Urmanov. In Nagano, it seemed that Urmanov would attempt to defend his title while Yagudin would have to wait his turn. But Urmanov withdrew from the world championships last March with a groin injury and has not competed since. So the champion Alexei stayed home and the callow Alexei has come to the Olympics in his place.

"It is the biggest tragedy of his life," Mishin said of Urmanov.

Because of Urmanov's injury, Russia qualified only two skaters for the Olympics, Yagudin and Ilya Kulik. If Yagudin is in awe, he is doing a good job hiding it. He has apparently been waiting for this chance since he was 13 and he watched on television while Urmanov won the 1994 Winter Games in Lillehammer, Norway.

"I will win in Nagano," Mishin said that Yagudin told him.

Yagudin remembers the story differently.

"I said maybe in the future I will win a medal," he said Monday, smiling at Mishin's embellishment.

The future has arrived by Federal Express. Beginning Thursday, Yagudin will challenge Kulik, Elvis Stojko of Canada and Todd Eldredge of the United States. Four men fighting for three medals. If there is any extra incentive for Yagudin, it is his awkward

OLYMPIC SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, FEB. 16	
ALPINE SKIING, HAKUBA — Women's Combined (Slalom), 8:30 a.m.; Women's Super G, 10:15 a.m.	OBSCURE COUNTRY SONGS, Hakuba — Women's Slalom, 9 a.m.
CURLING, KORIKO — Men: Japan vs. Sweden, 9 a.m.; Women: Japan vs. Sweden, 9 a.m.; Germany vs. Norway, 9 a.m.; Canada vs. Norway, 1 p.m.; Germany vs. Sweden, 7 p.m.; U.S. vs. Norway, 2 p.m.; Switzerland vs. Japan, 7 p.m.; Women's Single, 2 p.m.	SWEDEN, Stockholm — Women's Short Track, first run, 9:30 a.m.; Giant Slalom, second run, 1 p.m.
FIGURE SKATING, NAGANO — Men's 500 meters, second round, 4:30 p.m.	SPEDSKATNING, Nagano — Men's 500 meters, 4:30 p.m.
WINTER SWIMMING, FISH, 11	ALPINE SWIMMING, Hakuba — Men's Downhill, 10 a.m.
SHOOTING, NAGANO — Men's 300m, 1 p.m.	SHOOTING, NAGANO — Women's 300m, 1 p.m.
CURLING, KORIKO — Women: Canada vs. Denmark, 9 a.m.; Japan vs. Sweden, 9 a.m.; Norway vs. Germany, 9 a.m.; Britain vs. U.S., 9 a.m.; Japan vs. Norway, 7 p.m.; U.S. vs. Britain, 7 p.m.; Canada vs. Norway vs. Sweden, 7 p.m.	SWEDEN, Stockholm — Women's Short Track, second run, 4:30 p.m.
LAWNS, UZURO — Women's Single, 2 p.m.	SKI JUMPING, HAKUBA — K90 Individual, 4:30 p.m.
SKATEBOARDING, NAGANO — Women's 3000 meters, 3 p.m.	SKATEBOARDING, NAGANO — Women's 3000 meters, 3 p.m.

home life. His parents are divorced, and he lives with his mother and his grandmother in a St. Petersburg apartment.

They share the apartment with strangers, using a common bathroom and kitchen but speaking seldom or never at all. An Olympic gold medal will mean a new apartment, a new life.

"I'm not thinking exactly that I have to skate for my family, but some of these thoughts are in my head," Yagudin said.

He can win, but it will be difficult. Stojko is a three-time world champion and the Olympic silver medalist. Eldredge is the 1996 world champion and extremely reliable, if not engaging. Kulik defeated Yagudin at an Olympic preview just before Christmas and again at the Russian championships. Mishin believes the Russian skating federation will work behind the scenes in Kulik's favor.

Kulik is from Moscow. Yagudin is from St. Petersburg. There is a natural rivalry and tension between the two camps.

When Mishin arrived at the European championships without Urmanov, he called Yagudin and 15-year-old Yevgeni Plushenko "my garbage and my refuse." Then Yagudin won, and now Mishin is saying, "He's a pretty good piece of garbage."

"Why do you criticize me?" Yagudin asked Mishin recently. "My jumps are perfect. My triple axel is the highest in the world."

Did he mind this teenage impudence? Not at all, Mishin said.

"If he's not believing he's good, nobody's believing it," the coach said. "First you have to become a champion in your mind."

SNOW: Storms Delay Events

Continued from Page 1

Japanese volunteers who chipped away at the ice on the steps that lead to the grandstands, Olympic offices and press workrooms.

The slalom course had disappeared beneath a layer of white at least a foot deep.

Blizzard is too harsh a word to describe the storm. The snow fell gently, but in remarkable quantity, a mountain equivalent of a monsoon swept in from the nearby sea. Occasionally, the snow would subside, and the sky would brighten, triggering fleeting optimism that the competition would finally begin.

Then the gods would do their work again, and the snow would return.

Hundreds of camouflage-clad members of the Japanese self-defense force dotted the mountainside in a war against the winter onslaught.

As Japanese rock music blared from loudspeakers, the men and women were a frenzy of activity, their bright red or yellow plastic shovels a virtual blur of color.

Nagano Olympic banners were put to use as gravity chutes, carrying the shoveled snow downhill and to the side of the course where it was carted away. But with the snow falling at an inch an hour through the morning, after more than a foot fell overnight, the battle was lost. For the second consecutive day, crowds of spectators, many with bundled-up small children in tow, faithfully trudged up the hillside toward the finish line, standing in the cold for hours until being told that the day's event was canceled.

As the crowds departed down treacherously slick walkways and streets, the sun emerged and the sky cleared, revealing the panorama of the Hakuba valley and surrounding mountains.

Many of the super-G skiers took advantage of the break in the weather for a freestyle run down the women's hill.

Snow was predicted to resume overnight, and continue through Tuesday, but a forecast seems only a best guess in Japan.

"Most of the athletes have been to Japan and we've never gotten races off on schedule here," Podivinsky said. "Everybody has backup plans and they're kicking in now."

Team Canada Awaits a Mighty Duck

By Joe Lapointe
New York Times Service

NAGANO, Japan — Olaf Kolzig, the Washington Capitals' goaltender, was on a plane somewhere over Japan on Monday when his German national team lost to Belarus, 8-2, and was knocked out of the Olympic ice hockey competition.

"I found out after we landed at the airport; I saw the score on Japanese TV," Kolzig said. "It's disappointing. I made this whole trip basically for nothing."

Germany is one of eight teams playing in the tournament's three-game preliminary round, which started Feb. 7. Only two of those teams, one from each four-team pool, advance to the main draw, which includes more traditional hockey powers like Canada, Russia and the United States. Assisted by France's victory over Belarus, Canada clinched the Pool B title with the victory over Germany. It will close out competition Tuesday in a game against Japan.

With National Hockey League players competing in the Olympics for the first time, Germany expected a major boost from players like Kolzig, the Colorado Avalanche defenseman Uwe

to play, Murray replied: "Oh, yeah. His health is the first priority, whether it's the Olympics or any other situation. He's feeling well enough to play."

Canada plays its first game on Friday. Kariya said last week that it was his fourth concussion. He had hoped to play last Wednesday but said no because of nausea, headaches and fatigue. He has said frequently that he was looking forward to playing in what would be his second Olympics.

In 1994, Kariya played well, but Canada won only a silver medal in part because Kariya was stopped during a postgame shoot-out by Tommy Salo, the goalie for Sweden, which won the gold through the tiebreaker formula.

Although he is a Canadian national, Kariya is of Japanese descent on his father's side. Hockey is not universally popular in Japan, but Kariya is known here and would likely become a local favorite if he plays in the Olympics.

Last week, Kariya said he knew that the effects of concussions were cumulative and that coming back too soon could increase the risk of serious brain damage. In recent seasons, concussions have become a major issue in sports.

The National Hockey League has marketing designs on Japan and staged two regular season games here in October. Kariya was supposed to play in them but missed because his contract was unsettled. The Japanese Olympic hockey team has generated considerable excitement among local fans.

Kariya's most recent concussion came after he scored a goal and was cross-checked in the jaw by Chicago's Gary Suter, a deed that got Suter suspended for four NHL games. Suter is one of the defensemen for Team USA. Last season, Kariya

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1998
Knows What
Do to Triumph

Right Wax Paves Way To Gold for Finn Skier

The Associated Press

HAKUBA, Japan — If you doubt that Olympic medals can hinge on seemingly trivial details, consider the matter of ski wax.

Bjorn Dahlie of Norway, a five-time Olympic gold medalist in cross-country skiing, chose the wrong wax for the 30-kilometer (18-mile) event Monday. He finished a distant 20th.

Mika Myllylae of Finland made the right choice, and claimed his country's first gold medal in cross-country skiing since 1964.

The Finns tested skis for an hour before the race, contested in a persistent snowfall that left 46 fresh centimeters (18 inches) on the course.

"I tried six or seven pairs, I chose one pair, but I changed my mind at the last moment and picked a different set," Myllylae said. "They had a bit of gliding wax. We were lucky with waxing; it was very important in today's race."

Myllylae grabbed a Finnish flag in the home stretch and held it between his teeth as he crossed the line in one hour 33 minutes 55.8 seconds. Then he got on his knees and kissed the snow.

"Conditions were very hard, and the track is one of the toughest I've seen in years," he said. "This 30K was like a 50K in easier conditions."

While the Finns used gliding wax, the Norwegians chose a sticky wax with more grip.

"Norway still had a medalist, Erling Jeune, who took the silver 1:31.1 behind Dahlie. But Dahlie finished more than six minutes behind, while the defending champion, Thomas Alsgaard, dropped out midway through the race while he was in 50th position. Silvio Fauner, a member of the Italian team that won the 1994 relay gold medal, won the bronze, 2:12.7 behind the winner.

Jeune, who used the same wax as Dahlie, said the Norwegians had problems getting the right mixture.

"We tested before the start, but we didn't know what the weather would be like during the race," said Jeune after winning his first Olympic medal.

Myllylae's victory gave Finland its first men's gold medal since Eero Mäntylä won two in Innsbruck, Austria, in 1964.

Last year, Myllylae became a hero in his country when he won the 50-kilometer title at the World Championship in Trondheim, Norway. Four years ago in Lillehammer, he took bronze in the 30-kilometer and silver in the 50-kilometer races, plus the bronze in the relay.

When Myllylae arrived at the European championships in Lillehammer, he was 15 years old. He had just graduated from primary school. His mother was 35. She was a single mother, and he was a prep school student.

"We asked him recently, 'What are you going to do?' He said, 'I'm going to be a skier.' He's a professional now," said his mother, Minna.

"I'm not thinking much about my future life. His parents are divorced. He lives with his mother and his mother in a St. Petersburg apartment. They share the apartment, using a common bathroom and kitchen and speaking сколько (skolko), the Russian word for "how many."

He has a new apartment, a new job, and is not thinking much about his future life. His parents are divorced. He lives with his mother and his mother in a St. Petersburg apartment. They share the apartment, using a common bathroom and kitchen and speaking сколько (skolko), the Russian word for "how many."

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Yekaterina Dafovska skiing to victory Monday on the cross-country course of the 15-kilometer biathlon.

A First for Bulgaria: Olympic Gold

*Dafovska, Ranked 51st, Beats a Ukrainian in Women's Biathlon**By Dennis D. Gray
The Associated Press*

NOZAWA ONSEN — On a day that saw established stars falling like the snow that blanketed the 15-kilometer individual biathlon, the gold medal went to Yekaterina Dafovska, a Bulgarian woman ranked 51st in world competition.

Dafovska's unexpected triumph brought Bulgaria its first Winter Olympic gold medal ever. The silver went to another hitherto middle-ranked biathlete, Elena Petrova of Ukraine.

The only close-to-predictable outcome was a bronze for Germany's Ursula Distl, who also won bronze four years ago at Lillehammer.

While Dafovska's victory gave Bulgaria its first men's gold medal since Eero Mäntylä won two in Innsbruck, Austria, in 1964.

Last year, Myllylae became a hero in his country when he won the 50-kilometer title at the World Championship in Trondheim, Norway. Four years ago in Lillehammer, he took bronze in the 30-kilometer and silver in the 50-kilometer races, plus the bronze in the relay.



Mika Myllylae, the winner of the 50-kilometer cross-country race.

Continued from Page 1

shot, but that's normal for me," she said. "Anyways, a bronze is a bronze. I'm happy."

Others were not. Magdalena Forsberg of Sweden, currently No. 1 in World Cup standings, missed three targets, which added three penalty minutes to her time and put her 14th place.

Forsberg appeared exhausted at the end, stumbling once on the final stretch, but unlike many of her competitors did

not collapse on crossing the finishing line.

Although snowfall tapered off toward the end of the race, the heavy snow demanded more endurance.

The event Monday was the first of six events of Olympic biathlon competition that has drawn 200 biathletes from 32 nations. Russia, Norway and Germany are expected to take the bulk of the medals.

That said, the curling arena is where one can say hello to Paul Savage, a 50-year-old Olympian.

Savage is the alternate for the Canadian men's team, a 38-year curling veteran who welcomed himself to the Nagano Games last week by standing up at a news conference, turning around and dropping his pants. He wanted to show off his new tattoo, a curling stone tucked inside the Canadian flag.

Such behavior is not so shocking, apparently, in curling circles, which enjoys its greatest popularity as a Canadian bowling-night-out.

Few towns in the prairies are without curling rinks. Major competitions are nationally televised and draw ratings that rank only behind hockey and baseball. The Olympic trials in Saskatoon,

Saskatchewan, drew 20,000. Most players, none of whom make their living at this, have nicknames, like the Canadian women's star and skip, Sandra Schmirler "the Curler."

Arguably the most popular women's athlete in Canada, Schmirler, 34, out of Regina, Saskatchewan, has won three world championships, the last of which came in 1996 while she was six months pregnant. Three months later, during the Olympic trials, a match was interrupted while she took time out to breast feed her daughter.

"For five or six years I'd given my life to curling, and I wasn't going to do it any longer," she said. "I did what I had to do, and I think women are really good at that."

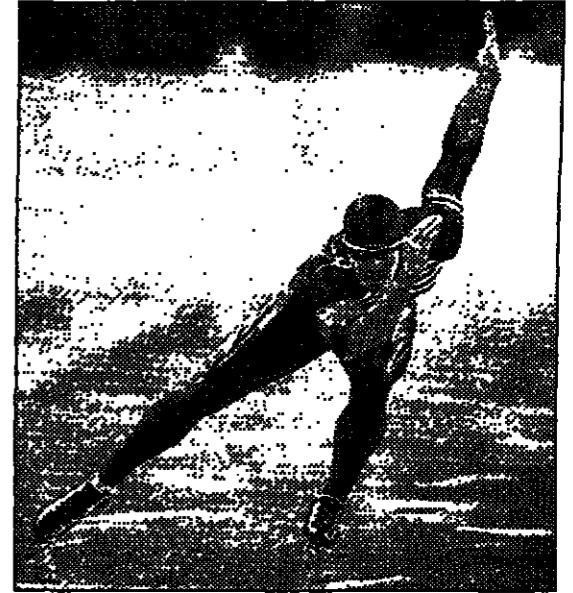
All right, this is not exactly the legendary material of cross-country, frost-on-the-beard skiing we are talking about, as the Canadian curler Eddie (the Wrench) Wernich would admit. Favoured at the trials to make the Olympic team, Wernich, a fireman by trade, fell just short.

"I'm 50, overweight," he rationalized. "Standing on a podium, even I'd laugh."

The American men have a curler, in the third position, awaiting a kidney transplant. When Mike Pepinski, 24-year-old school teacher from Wisconsin, told his doctor he was going to the Olympics, the doctor replied, "And what sport are you playing in your condition?"

Curling nonetheless was granted full medal status after being a demonstration sport in 1924, 1932, 1988 and 1992. The game does require tremendous offensive and defensive strategy, as when Canada's third, Jan Betker, scored a double-takeout in the 10th end Monday — knocking two American stones out of scoring position — as the American team, which trailed by 2-3, tried to rally for the upset victory.

The Canadian women, winners of five of the last six world titles, took a step toward adding the one elusive prize, an Olympic medal. The tournament runs seven days at the Games, with the men's and women's medals matches to be played Saturday and Sunday. "This is the Olympics," Schmirler said. "We're going for the gold."



Casey FitzRandolph, who placed third Monday.

Shimizu Is Fastest as 11 Skaters Shatter 500-Meter Record

*By Nicholas D. Kristof
The Associated Press*

across as relaxed and diffident — just the opposite of the intense figure he is on ice.

The skaters will race again Tuesday, and the medals will go to those with the lowest combined time for the two races.

The blizzard of records in part reflected new technology, for many of the skaters — including Shimizu — wore the new "clap skates" that are designed with a hinge at the front of the skate. That allows the skater to lift his foot without raising the skate by the same amount, and is generally believed to produce faster times, after skaters get used to them.

The previous Olympic record, 36.33 seconds, fell in the first heat, as Ermanno Ioriatti of Italy roared in with 36.30 seconds. Then FitzRandolph zipped around the course in 35.81 seconds, to set another record, and moments later Overland broke it again with 35.78. A few minutes later, the record fell yet again, as Shimizu came in first with 35.76. In all, 11 of the 42 skaters set times that surpassed the previous record.

"It was pretty fast today," said Derrick Auch, the Canadian coach. He said Jeremy Wotherspoon, a Canadian student who has won four of the six World Cup 500-meter races so far this season, would try on Tuesday to overcome his seventh-place rank in first-day racing, the result of a slip that forced him to touch the ice with his hand and slowed him down.

Lee Yong, South Korea, 3:40.407; 33. Albert Demchenko, Russia, disqualified; 34. Andrus Paul, Estonia, disqualified.

SPEED SKATING

*Men's 500-Meters**First Round**1. Hiroyuki Shimizu, Japan, 35.76; 2. Kevin Overland, Canada, 35.81; 3. Casey FitzRandolph, United States, 35.81; 4. Sylvain Gagnon, Canada, 35.81; 5. Errol Bouchard, Canada, 35.81.**2nd Round**1. Ermanno Ioriatti, Italy, 35.78; 2. Michael Hutter, Austria, 35.78; 3. Michael Klimchuk, Russia, 35.78; 4. Sylvain Gagnon, Canada, 35.78.**3rd Round**1. Michael Hutter, Austria, 35.76; 2. Michael Klimchuk, Russia, 35.76; 3. Sylvain Gagnon, Canada, 35.76; 4. Andrus Paul, Estonia, 35.76.**4th Round**1. Michael Hutter, Austria, 35.75; 2. Michael Klimchuk, Russia, 35.75; 3. Sylvain Gagnon, Canada, 35.75; 4. Andrus Paul, Estonia, 35.75.**5th Round**1. Michael Hutter, Austria, 35.74; 2. Michael Klimchuk, Russia, 35.74; 3. Sylvain Gagnon, Canada, 35.74; 4. Andrus Paul, Estonia, 35.74.**6th Round**1. Michael Hutter, Austria, 35.73; 2. Michael Klimchuk, Russia, 35.73; 3. Sylvain Gagnon, Canada, 35.73; 4. Andrus Paul, Estonia, 35.73.**7th Round**1. Michael Hutter, Austria, 35.72; 2. Michael Klimchuk, Russia, 35.72; 3. Sylvain Gagnon, Canada, 35.72; 4. Andrus Paul, Estonia, 35.72.**8th Round**1. Michael Hutter, Austria, 35.71; 2. Michael Klimchuk, Russia, 35.71; 3. Sylvain Gagnon, Canada, 35.71; 4. Andrus Paul, Estonia, 35.71.**9th Round*

ART BUCHWALD

Legal Hat Trick

WASHINGTON — A group of lawyers was seated at the round table in the Hung Jury Lawyers Club in Washington when one said, "William Ginsburg just walked in. He did the hat trick by appearing on 'Meet the Press,' 'Face the Nation.' This Week With Sam and Cokie' and Fox News all in one morning."

Another lawyer said, "I would like to know who his booking agent is. I can't even get on the CBS 'Sunday Morning' show."

A third lawyer at the table said, "Did you hear about Fred Rubenstein? He tried a murder case, lost it, and his client has been sentenced to the electric chair."

"Is he going to appeal?"

"He was, but he got a job as Johnnie Cochran's co-host on Court TV."

Maxim's to Auction Wine in New York*The Associated Press*

PARIS — Maxim's in Paris announced on Monday that it would auction off 14,000 bottles of wine — or 20 percent of its stock — at its New York restaurant next month.

The sale on March 7 will be held in New York to attract the many wine collectors who live there, said the Tajan auction house, which represents Maxim's in France. It is second wine auction. The first, in Paris in June 1997, brought in nearly \$2 million, part of which went to a foundation for the elderly and the disabled.

Margaret Bush said, "They want me to become the Monica Lewinsky legal expert on CNN, but I have a conflict of interest. I'm now the Linda Tripp expert for the Shopping News Channel."

The table agreed that it was a good time for lawyers.

One said, "You have to be a real dummy not to get on television. I have a partner who came out of the courthouse, and instead of walking toward the microphones, he pulled his client in the other direction and he never got on the air. We asked him to leave the firm."

"Has anyone heard that the University of Southern California is combining the law and drama schools so that lawyers will get better training in play-acting, and actors will get better instruction in lawyering?"

Another lawyer said, "Have you heard that the club is starting a karate course to help attorneys who are trying to escape from the media? The trick is to punch the photographers in the kidneys, and when you kick one below the belt don't bother to stop and pick him up off the ground."

"It's about time we learned self-defense against the paparazzi."

"You have to be real careful with the way press people handle their mikes. Channing Bush was running down the street from the courthouse, got into her car, but made the mistake of trying to fasten her safety belt. A correspondent from a radio talk show knocked out all her teeth."

Everyone agreed they would rather be lawyers than anything else, and at the end of the meal they all burst into song: "There's no business like show business . . ."

Seattle — Eddie Vedder, Pearl Jam's leader, watches his words these days. He is so wary of being misunderstood, or of seeming presumptuous, that he hesitates even to assign any meaning to the title of his band's new album, "Yield," which was released last week.

The table agreed that it was a good time for lawyers.

But he doesn't have to spell it out. For much of the 1990s, Pearl Jam has been famously unyielding as it has tried, quixotically, to make million-selling rock while keeping a clear conscience. If there has been an iconic 1990s rocker, it was Vedder circa 1993: brooding, earnest and increasingly uneasy with his own popularity.

It was around then that the band stopped making video clips and doing interviews. It made a kamikaze run against Ticketmaster, which controls ticket sales at most big American halls; in protest against the company's service charges, the band stopped performing at Ticketmaster halls and ended up barely touring America at all. It discovered that integrity has no fixed boundaries and that the struggle to maintain it presents endless pitfalls.

With "Yield," the band members say, Pearl Jam has decided to concentrate on music — recording and performing — while yielding to the realities of the music business in the 1990s. The group is likely to play shows at a few Ticketmaster halls in cities without nearby alternatives, and it's thinking about releasing a music video. More important, the band has recharged its music. "Yield," its fifth album, is as strong as the band's best previous one, "Vs." from 1993.

"Let's say that hypothetically speaking, the title does mean something," Vedder says with a crooked smile. A week before the album's release, he shows up at Pearl Jam's headquarters, a warehouse in downtown Seattle, where the band has begun rehearsals for a world tour. "You can fight so much, and then you have to think, 'What are the real battles?' 'What's really important?' You get to a certain point, and it's really hard to remember what music is and to remember what drives you."

Not that he thinks Pearl Jam's business choices, including its feud with Ticketmaster, have been misguided. "We've made decisions based on morale and ethics because we've got them," Vedder says. "That's our choice, and we're going to live by it. We reserve the right to screw up — not that we have yet, but we will."

At least since the 1960s, rockers have had an uneasy relationship with the demands of show business. While rock presents itself as the voice of idealism and rebellion, it also strives for mass popularity. The trick is to sell records and sell out concerts without appearing to sell out the fans.



R. Geller/Sygma
Eddie Vedder, Pearl Jam's lead singer, asks: "What are the real battles?"

Pearl Jam, which has sold some 30 million albums worldwide, is at once a musical ensemble, a profit center, an object of media interest and a source of that elusive but prized quality, credibility. Rockers worry about credibility in ways other pop-culture figures can ignore. Nobody cares, for instance, that Pierce Brosnan as James Bond endorses everything from liquor to cars to telephone service.

But particularly in the 1990s, when promotional ploys are everywhere, it's hard to specify what constitutes a sellout. Punk-rock bands play tours sponsored by shoe companies; 1960s hippie rockers sell beloved songs for laxative commercials; the Rolling Stones now allow Sprint to put a straight pin through the band's lolling-tongue logo.

While Pearl Jam's profitability gives the band clout, it also multiplies the stakes on every small business decision, like setting the price of a souvenir T-shirt or the service charge on a ticket. The band keeps altering business as usual; for instance, after its 1991 debut album, "10," Pearl Jam took full control of its CD packaging, switching to paper instead of plastic. And true to its own song "Spin the Black Circle," it has insisted that its albums be released on LPs as well as CDs, significantly boosting vinyl sales overall.

Most rockers find themselves somewhere on a spectrum between the Spice Girls, a brand name with times attached, and Fugazi, the paragon of uncompromised virtue that insists

on staying on an independent label and keeping both CD and concert ticket prices under \$10. But Fugazi plays clubs and measures album sales in the thousands; Pearl Jam is on a major label, Epic, and plays the worldwide arena circuit. In the aftermath of punk rock, which questioned the whole idea that bigger is better, Pearl Jam sometimes felt guilty about its own blockbuster popularity.

Pearl Jam arrived decisively with "10," which has sold nine million copies in the United States. Along with Nirvana, the band found itself leading Seattle's grunge invasion, and from the beginning its music combined muscle with misgivings. The brawny guitar riffs and Vedder's husky baritone were close to meat-and-potatoes hard rock, particularly on the band's first and most conventional album. That record sounded less radical than the manic-depressive songs of Nirvana, and it reached commercial radio stations that were still playing so-called classic rock.

Yet the lyrics, and the troubled tone of Vedder's singing, traded hard rock's fantasies of power for uncertainty and self-doubt, expressed in tales of abused children and people desperate to find a purpose. As Pearl Jam grew more confident on its next albums, "Vs." (1993) and "Vitalogy" (1994), the music added scrappy crosscurrents: hard-rock riffs, psychedelic jamming and folk-rock delicacy.

The songs were simultaneously heroic and insecure, and they were taken to heart by young listeners who were torn, like Vedder's lyrics, between self-righteousness and doubt. While Nirvana self-destructed, Pearl Jam persisted, and its sound was everywhere. For most of the 1990s, rock radio stations had filled their air time with Pearl Jam and imitators like the Stone Temple Pilots, Seven Mary Three, Bush and Creed.

Vedder quickly learned the drawback of having his face on television shows and magazine covers, he found himself besieged. Fans mobbed him when he went to a baseball or basketball game.

So Pearl Jam, contrary to 1990s routine, stopped making music videos and, until now, has also kept its distance from the usual rounds of print interviews and television appearances. In a way, the band was trying to return to the pre-MTV era, when most rock bands were audio presences, not celebrities. The band may have sacrificed the sales that exposure on MTV would have provided, but it was willing to make that trade-off.

"I don't know exactly how to say this," Vedder muses on his days of mass-media exposure. "But in a way, I feel like a cop. Every time I met someone, I had to judge if someone was being honest with me or not. It's too much work to analyze every person that comes up to you to see if they have an agenda. It's not healthy."

PEOPLE

Mark Lennihan/The Associated Press
STARS AND ALL-STARS — The artist formerly known as Prince and the film director Spike Lee at courtside for the NBA All-Star game in New York.

EVERY comedian in every second-rate club in America must have a few minutes of good material on President Bill Clinton's latest troubles. Yet at Ford's Theatre in Washington, standing a few feet from the man himself, Whoopi Goldberg had to hold her tongue. "They gave me a whole list of stuff that I couldn't mess with," she cracked, brandishing a scroll that dragged along the stage. As host of "Festival at Ford's," the theater's annual gala benefit, she was reduced to joking about how she wasn't allowed to joke. The closest she got to the edge was a remark about using foul language on television: "I don't need to say [those words] anymore. Peter Jennings is saying them now," a reference to the ABC News anchorman. "It's hard, I'm telling you," she repeated often to the crowd, including dozens of senators, members of Congress and the cabinet. It was up to the magician David Copperfield to deliver the most topical line of the night. With Hillary Rodham Clinton by his side to assist in a magic trick, Copperfield handed a knife to a stager hand, saying, "Put this back in Kenneth Starr's office."

Prince Charles, long criticized in the

tabloid press for his buttoned-up public image, was dubbed the Prince of Hearts on Monday by the tabs. In dispatches from Kathmandu, where the prince is in the middle of a tour of Asia, correspondents paid tribute to the way he reached out to young AIDS victims just as his former wife, the late Diana, Princess of Wales, had done. "Prince Charles has clearly embraced the legacy of Princess Diana and decided to show a new softer and caring side — in public," said the Sun.

Asked to do a nude love scene with Tom Cruise in "Jerry Maguire," Renee Zellweger didn't have to think twice. "She was direct, looking me right in the eye," the director, Cameron Crowe, recalled in an article on Zellweger in Redbook. "It wasn't like, 'I'm a bashful girl. I'm in over my head.' None of that. It was 'I'm not going to do this. I believe I can make it without doing this. Meryl Streep never did nudity. I'm not her, but I'm me and I'm not gonna do it.'" Cameron let the relatively unknown actress make the call. The film's popularity brought lots of work for Zellweger in movies including "Deceivers" and the forthcoming "Price Above

Rubies" and "One True Thing," in which she co-starred with Streep.

Jody Williams, joint winner of the 1997 Nobel Peace Prize, said Monday that she planned to step down as head of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines but would keep her \$500,000 share of the prize money to fund her continued work with the ICBL and to write a book about the success of the campaign. "I will remain involved with the campaign, but I no longer want to be in charge on a day-to-day basis," Williams said. Williams and the ICBL, a network of 1,000

nongovernmental organizations in about 60 countries, were jointly awarded the prize for their campaign for a global treaty to ban antipersonnel land mines.

A Portuguese baker was honored as the maker of the best baguette in Paris, marking the first time in the five years the prize has been given that it has gone to someone not born in France. Mayor Jean Tiberi presented the 1998 grand prize to Antonio Teixeira, who came to France seven years ago from Portugal.

Coppola to Be Honored*The Associated Press*

LOS ANGELES — The director Francis Ford Coppola will receive the American Society of Cinematographers Board of Governors Award on March 8 for the body of his work, including "The Godfather" trilogy, "Apocalypse Now" and "The Conversation."

The Oscar and Tony Award winner Kevin Kline will perform "An Evening of Shakespeare" on Feb. 22 at Washburn University in Topeka, Kansas, to raise money for the Topeka Civic Theatre and Academy's \$5 million capital campaign. Kline is donating the performance, with ticket prices ranging from \$200 to \$500. "I believe every community should have its own theater, and it should be supported by the community," he said. "I think the theater gives us something that movies cannot."



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